# Southcom: Al-Ghozi's fellow escapee killed in Lanao

Story below, Col. 1

## Don't touch Marcos loot, PCGG asks gov't

By Dona Pazzibugan and Carlito Pablo

AFTER successfully working for the release of $683 million in Marcos Swiss deposits, the Presidential Commission on Good Government said the government should not touch the recovered Marcos loot.

DON'T/A17

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

## Gordon champions harassed smokers

By Jerome Aning

YOSI MUNA KAYO ULIT PARA 'DI LUGI BUSINESS !

THE DWINDLING tribe of smokers, particularly the tourists among them, have a champion in Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon.

In a statement

GORDON/A19

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Friday, August 8, 2003 ★★★ 68 pages / 6 sections / vol. 18 / no. 241 P15

website: www.inq7.net

# FVR tells GMA: Why me?

## Says gov't has no one to blame but itself

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

EX-PRESIDENT Fidel V. Ramos yesterday angrily rejected a statement the other day by President Macapagal-Arroyo that indirectly blamed him for last month's failed coup.

In a speech before Asean finance ministers on Wednesday, 10 days after foiling the military rebellion, Ms Macapagal said "the resurgence of mutinies can be traced in part to a reluctance to enforce justice against military adventurism."

But Ramos said Malacañang had no one to blame but itself for the widespread grumbling among junior officers that culminated in the July 27 mutiny in Makati City.

"I was faced with the same problems when I became President but there never was an instance when the chain of command was threatened during my time for the simple reason that the process of dialogue remained open during my time," he said.

Ramos is currently in Singa-

FVR/A16

EDWIN BACASMAS

**TAKING** a break from days of living dangerously, President Macapagal goes to the theater on Wednesday to watch "Darna," the mythical Filipino super-heroine who conquers the forces of evil, which has been set to music and dance by Ballet Philippines. *(See story on Page A7.)*

**EX-PRESIDENT** Ramos: There were no coup attempts during my time. Why should I be the scapegoat? AP PHOTO FILE

## Corpus: This gov't would have fallen if...

THE REBELS who mounted the July 27 military rebellion likely would have overthrown President Macapagal-Arroyo had the plot not been unmasked early enough, the former military intelligence chief said yesterday.

The mutineers' original plan was to mount a power grab on Aug. 2 by simultaneously seizing Malacañang, the Sangley Point naval base, a television network "and other vital targets," Brig. Gen. Victor Corpus said.

"Because we were able to preempt them, they panicked and

CORPUS/A19

## Senate OKs closed-door meet; hearing reset Aug. 14

By Christine O. Avendaño, Juliet Labog-Javellana and Martin P. Marfil

HEEDING Malacañang's request, the Senate yesterday reset to Aug. 14 the resumption of its hearings on the July 27 mutiny and will conduct the inquiry behind closed doors.

"We did this in the national interest and believing in the good faith of the representations of Malacañang that, indeed, the security officials are busy conducting what they call ongoing operations ... which will be finished by [today], for which reason the Aug. 14 setting will be convenient for all concerned," Senate President Franklin Drilon said at a news conference.

Drilon said he used his discretion as the leader of the chamber to accede to the request relayed by Executive Secretary Alberto

SENATE/A7

## DOJ on coup charges: Double jeopardy

By Christine O. Avendaño and Juliet L. Javellana

UNDER questioning by an opposition senator, a ranking Department of Justice official yesterday told a Senate committee that the filing of coup d'etat charges against the July 27 mutineers and the start of court-martial proceedings against them constituted double jeopardy.

Emphasizing that it was his "personal" opinion, Justice Undersecretary Ricardo Paras said he believed the mutineers were facing two different charges for the same act. Paras agreed with Angara's assertion that "a court martial is a military version of a civilian administration of justice."

"In that case, it would be my personal opinion that it's double jeopardy. There should be only one forum to try (the mutineers)," Paras told Angara, whose committee on constitutional amendments held a hearing yesterday on the concept of a state of rebellion.

The committee hearing is separate from the probe by the Senate, constituted as a committee of the whole, on Aug. 14. *(Story at left.)*

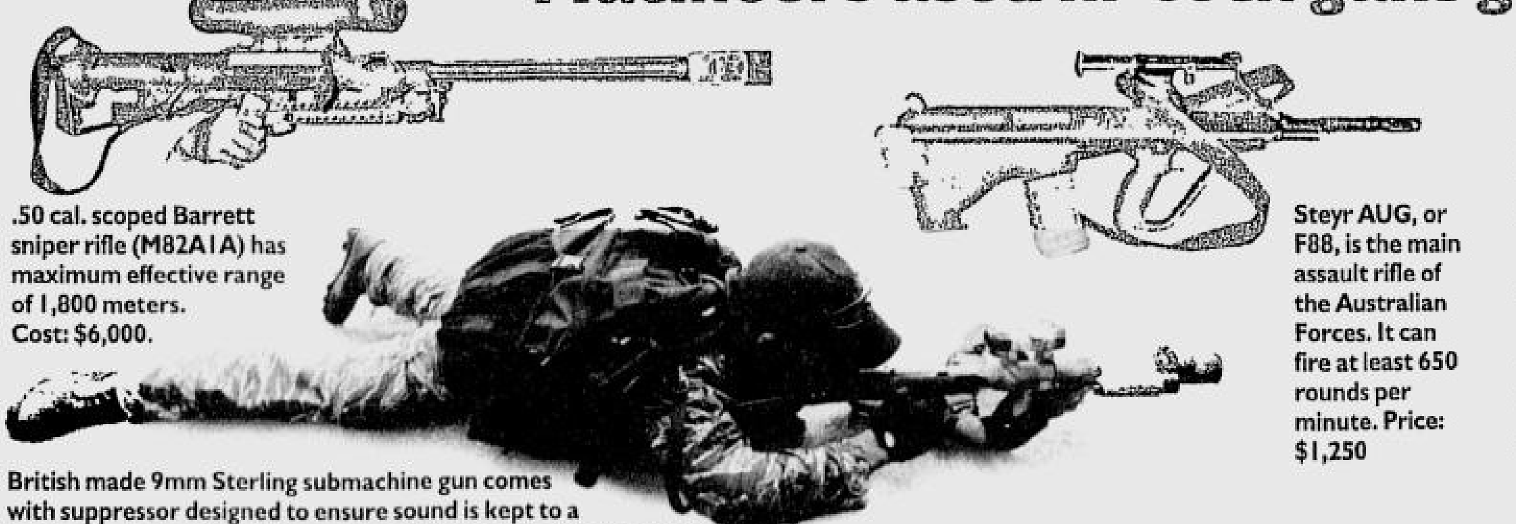
Ambassador Roy Cimatu, the government's official negotiator with the mutineers, admitted that the filing of charges in civilian courts was not among the agreements he reached with leaders of the mutiny on July 27.

Cimatu's admission bolsters the complaints of the mutineers that the government reneged on the agreement that they would be subject only to court martial proceedings.

But Cimatu denied rumors he had quit in protest over the filing

DOJ/A16

## Mutineers used hi-tech guns given by US



.50 cal. scoped Barrett sniper rifle (M82A1A) has maximum effective range of 1,800 meters. Cost: $6,000.

Steyr AUG, or F88, is the main assault rifle of the Australian Forces. It can fire at least 650 rounds per minute. Price: $1,250

British made 9mm Sterling submachine gun comes with suppressor designed to ensure sound is kept to a minimum. Rate of fire 550 rounds per minute. Effective range: 200 meters.

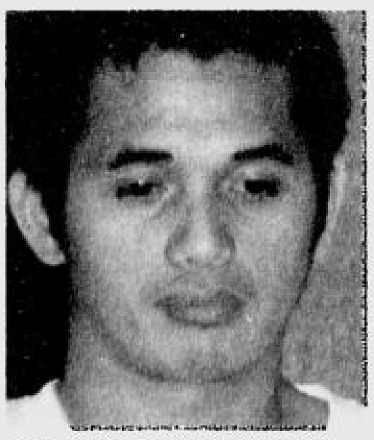
By TJ Burgonio

THE MILITARY officers who staged a mutiny on July 27 were armed with high-powered firearms provided by the US government during an antiterror training in 2001, officials said yesterday.

The firearms seized from the rebels after the short-lived mutiny included Robar and Barrett sniper rifles, according to Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero, public information officer of the Armed Forces.

MUTINEERS/A16

## Al-Ghozi pal killed in Lanao–Southcom



**EDRIS:** Escaped July 14 with Al-Ghozi from Camp Crame.

By Julie S. Alipala
*PDI Mindanao Bureau*

ZAMBOANGA CITY—One of the two Abu Sayyaf bandits who escaped with Indonesian terrorist Fathur Rohman Al-Ghozi was killed yesterday in a reported shootout with Army soldiers in Sultan Dimaporo, Lanao del Norte, according to military officers.

Lt. Gen. Roy Kyamko, Southern Command chief, said Abdulmukim Ong Edris, who carried a P2-million price on his head, was arrested along with an alleged leader of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front by members of the 1st Infantry Division in Barangay Bangaan Naga at around 11:30 a.m.

Edris and his companion, identified as Mahmud Ismael, were on a public vehicle when sighted by a "spotter from Basilan," said Maj. Gen. Trifonio Salazar, chief of the 1st Tabak Division.

"They were stopped at a checkpoint and arrested. They were supposed to take soldiers to the hideout of Al-Ghozi," Kyamko said.

Edris and Ismael were shot and killed when they tried to wrest away the firearms of their captors from the Army's Task Force Charlie, prompting the latter to fire at them, the report said.

The pair died instantly from gunshot wounds, according to the report.

Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero, military information officer, confirmed the killings.

"We believe that one way or another, Edris was bound to commit mistakes," he told reporters. But he said that so far Edris' fellow fugitives, Al-Ghozi and Omar

AL-GHOZI/A19

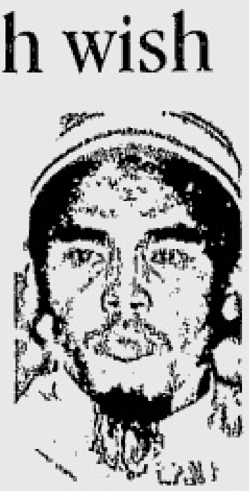
## 'Smiling' Bali bomber guilty, gets death wish

BALI, Indonesia—In the first verdict over last year's Bali bombings, an Indonesian court on Thursday convicted and sentenced to death Amrozi bin Nurhasyim, a key player in the attack that killed 202 people.

Amrozi, the so-called "smiling bomber" who wants to die a martyr, was found guilty of planning and helping execute the Bali bombings, the deadliest since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

"The accused is found guilty in a legal and convincing manner of carrying out an act of terrorism," said I Made Karna, head of the five

SMILING/A16



AMROZI AFP

# Second FRONT PAGE

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

### WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Western Luzon and Western Visayas will experience cloudy skies with occasional rains. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/08/08/03

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Metro Manila | Cloudy with Rains | Iloilo/Bacolod | Partly Cloudy |
| Baguio | Cloudy with Rains | Roxas | Partly Cloudy |
| Tuguegarao | Partly Cloudy | Cebu | Partly Cloudy |
| Laoag | Cloudy with Rains | Tacloban | Partly Cloudy |
| Clark Zone | Cloudy with Rains | Gen. Santos | Partly Cloudy |
| Tagaytay | Cloudy with Rains | Zamboanga | Partly Cloudy |
| Legazpi | Partly Cloudy | Cagayan de Oro | Partly Cloudy |
| Calapan | Cloudy with Rains | Davao | Partly Cloudy |

# DOJ summons Gringo

By Philip C. Tubeza and Juliet Labog-Javellana

**THE GOVERNMENT yesterday vowed to stamp out military rebellions once and for all as the justice department issued subpoenas against opposition Sen. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and six others who were charged with coup d'etat for the takeover of Oakwood Premier Hotel in Makati by mutinous soldiers on July 27.**

Honasan and the other respondents will have 10 days to file their counter-affidavits, said Justice Undersecretary Merceditas Gutierrez.

Besides Honasan, the others included in the charge sheet were Capt. Felix Turingan; retired colonels George Duldulao, Ernesto Macahiya and a certain Lazo; a certain Col. Briones, Lina Reyes and other members of the Philippine Guardians Brotherhood Inc., the faction of the Guardians organization that Honasan leads.

President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday reiterated that there would be no leniency for the coup plotters and their civilian backers, but due process would be observed.

## Total justice

She said the failure to punish past mutineers was the reason for the persistence of military adventurism.

"I am for total justice based on due process," the President said.

She said the wheels of justice will not stop until the "full breadth of this conspiracy" is dealt with.

"Once and for all, we are resolved to end military adventurism and its root causes," she said.

The President said that the secondary aim of the mutineers—should the main one to topple her government fail—was to weaken the national leadership.

"We shall prove them wrong. We shall seek the maximum penalty for those who planned, led and executed this misadventure. The people cry out for full retribution among the leaders, although we are prepared to deal with those who are proven to have been simply deceived or misled, with greater understanding," she said.

Gutierrez said that unlike the conspirators in previous coup attempts, those responsible for the Oakwood mutiny would be penalized because the crime of coup d'etat was now included in the Penal Code.

"We have a new law and by all means we will enforce that law," she said.

## Davide commission

The crime of coup d'etat went into the law statutes after the 1989 bloody coup that Honasan mounted against the Aquino administration.

The Davide Commission, which investigated that coup, had recommended that the plotters be given stiff penalties but the recommendation was not followed.

Gutierrez said Honasan and the other respondents are expected to present themselves before state prosecutors when the preliminary investigation starts at 2 p.m. on Aug. 18.

She suggested that Honasan, who is in hiding, might submit his counter-affidavit before a member of the prosecuting panel before Aug. 18.

She said the Honasan was being given the chance to do so until Aug. 19.

"We are optimistic that since he is a senator of the Republic, [Honasan] will answer the charges against him," Gutierrez said.

# *Solon takes up cudgels for Reyes*

ANOTHER congressman has come to the support of beleaguered Angelo Reyes, saying the defense secretary had helped Congress craft a landmark legislation on procurement reforms to eradicate corruption in the government.

Camarines Sur Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr., chair of the House committee on appropriations, said Reyes played a key role in the passage of the Procurement Reform Bill which was ordered implemented by President Macapagal-Arroyo three months ago.

"The Department of Defense actively took part in the legislation of the bill last year. They (officials) gave us the time," he said.

Andaya said Reyes personally appeared at the House several times and participated in the deliberation of the measure to expose anomalies in the purchase of firearms, ammunition, equipment and other military items.

"We were glad to hear from the defense officials that they recognized the existence of corruption in their agency. We thought they would protect their own kind," he said.

He said the defense department was very candid in the disclosure of irregularities among officials, employees, contractors and suppliers.

Reyes, Andaya said, came up with solutions to stop corruption not only in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, but also in all government agencies.

"The secretary has done his part. He has done something great to the nation in aid of legislation to bring in major reforms," the young, but veteran legislator said.

Saying that various Southeast Asian and European countries wanted to adopt the provisions in the Procurement Reform Bill, Andaya suggested to Navy Ltsg. Antonio Trillanes IV, leader of the failed Oakwood mutiny, to read it.

# Joker draws flak from pals, foes in Senate

By Michael Lim Ubac

ADMINISTRATION Sen. Joker Arroyo's charge that Congress had failed to rally behind the national leadership during and after the Oakwood mutiny yesterday drew criticism from both sides of the political fence.

Senate President Franklin Drilon belied Arroyo's claim, saying he [Drilon] was the first elected official to rally behind the beleaguered President on July 27.

"On the day of the mutiny... I was in Malacañang denouncing the action taken by the rebel soldiers on television and calling on the people to defend the President and the democratic institutions she represents," Drilon said.

He recalled that Sen. Ramon Magsaysay, chair of the committee on national defense and security, also appeared on television to denounce the mutiny.

Drilon said another administration colleague, Sen. Robert Barbers, called him up "to relay the support of the people of Mindanao behind the Macapagal leadership."

Drilon also pointed out the upper chamber has adopted Resolution No. 655 condemning "in the strongest possible terms the extra-constitutional actions taken by the mutinous soldiers."

Opposition Senators Rodolfo Biazon, Vicente Sotto III, Edgardo Angara and Aquilino Pimentel Jr. also assailed Arroyo.

Biazon recalled he was the first government official to arrive at Ayala Avenue in the early hours of the mutiny, while Sotto and Sen. Gregorio Honasan arrived before dusk.

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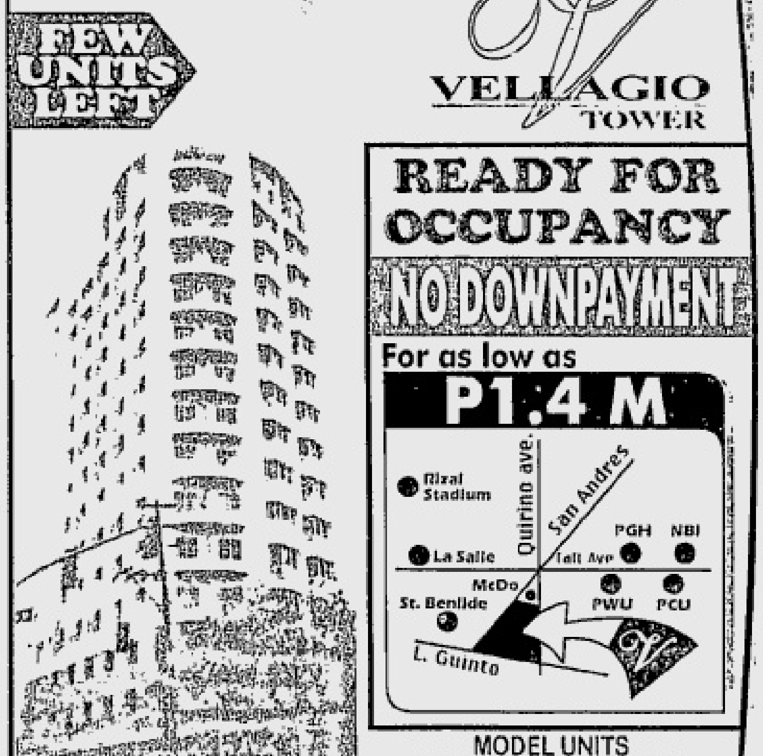

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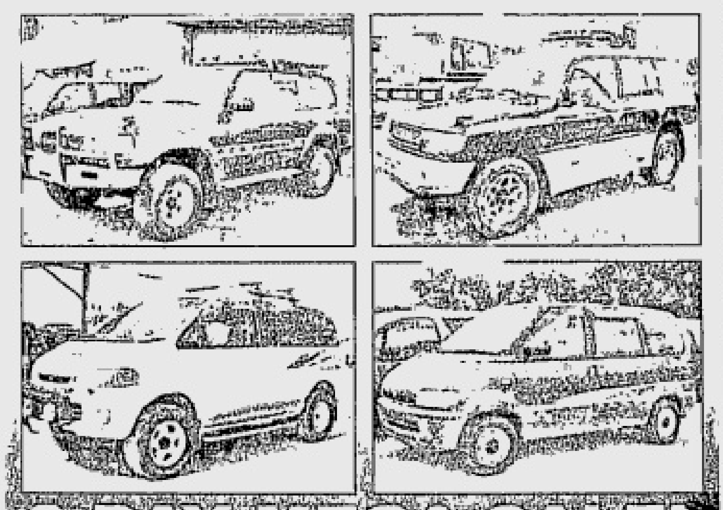

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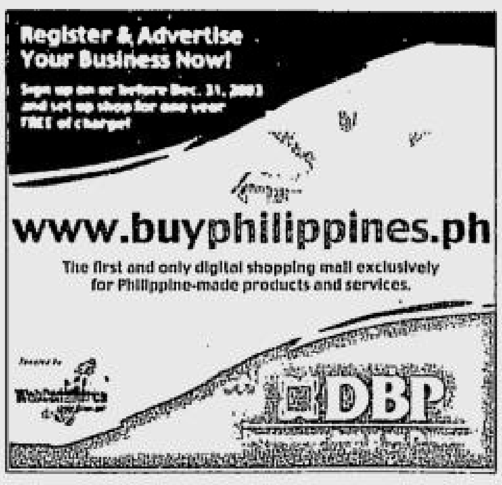
# 4 Malaysians held for poaching

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Four Malaysians, including three minors, were arrested for alleged illegal fishing off the western Philippines, the Navy said yesterday.

A naval task force caught the four on a small vessel on Wednesday as they were using fishing nets off the coast of Mangsee Island, Commander Farley Quipot said. *AFP*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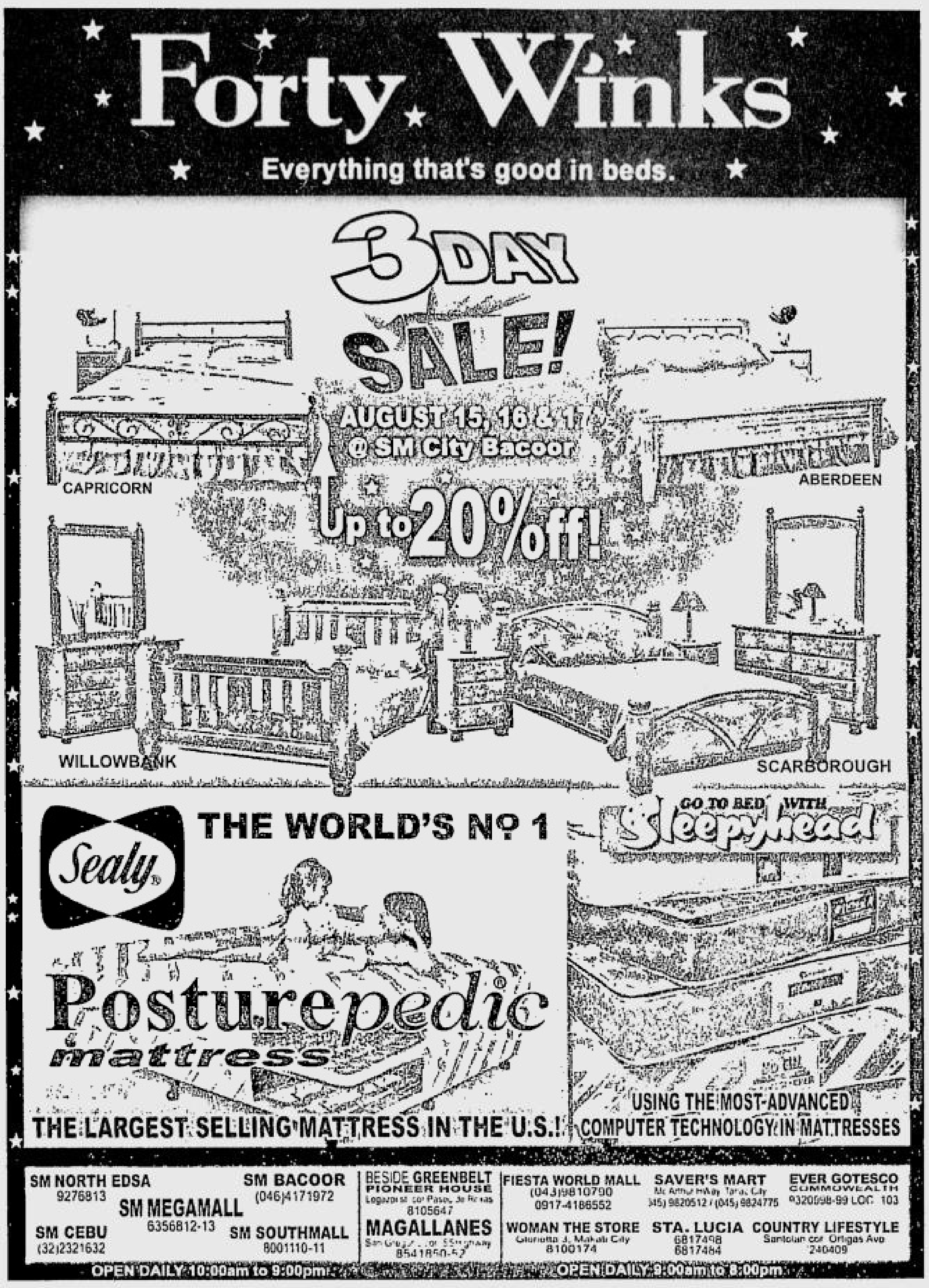
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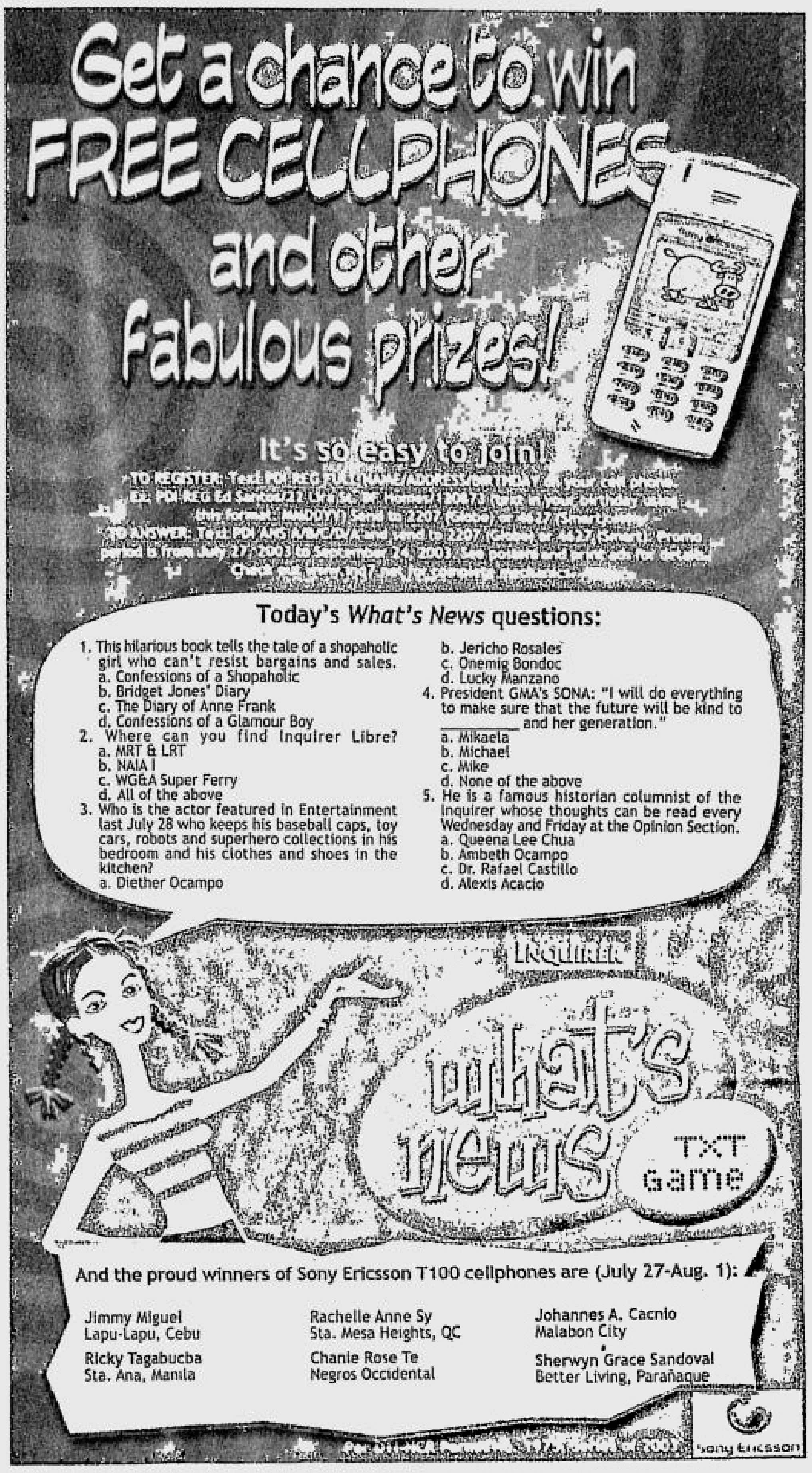
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## Today's *What's News* questions:

1. This hilarious book tells the tale of a shopaholic girl who can't resist bargains and sales.
   a. Confessions of a Shopaholic
   b. Bridget Jones' Diary
   c. The Diary of Anne Frank
   d. Confessions of a Glamour Boy
2. Where can you find Inquirer Libre?
   a. MRT & LRT
   b. NAIA I
   c. WG&A Super Ferry
   d. All of the above
3. Who is the actor featured in Entertainment last July 28 who keeps his baseball caps, toy cars, robots and superhero collections in his bedroom and his clothes and shoes in the kitchen?
   a. Diether Ocampo
   b. Jericho Rosales
   c. Onemig Bondoc
   d. Lucky Manzano
4. President GMA's SONA: "I will do everything to make sure that the future will be kind to __________ and her generation."
   a. Mikaela
   b. Michael
   c. Mike
   d. None of the above
5. He is a famous historian columnist of the Inquirer whose thoughts can be read every Wednesday and Friday at the Opinion Section.
   a. Queena Lee Chua
   b. Ambeth Ocampo
   c. Dr. Rafael Castillo
   d. Alexis Acacio

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# Only 500 Pinoys in US sign up to vote

**By Martin P. Marfil**

ONLY 500 overseas Filipinos in the United States registered to vote in 2004.

Despite the low turnout, however, Commission on Elections chair Benjamin Abalos said that it was already a sizeable number "because they have to sign an affidavit that they have to come back."

There are about 2.5 million Filipinos in the US out of about 7 million worldwide.

Abalos said that in total about 6,000 overseas Filipinos worldwide took advantage of the Absentee Voting Law.

Most of those who registered, numbering 4,000, were based in Asia.

In Hong Kong, where there are an estimated 170,000 Filipinos, 3,060 registered for the first four days of the registration.

The registration for overseas Filipinos ends on Sept. 30.

Authorities earlier said they expected at least 2.5 million Filipinos to register.

Meanwhile, the election modernization program is in danger of being derailed after a group filed a petition before the Supreme Court questioning the award of the contract to purchase automated counting machines.

The Information Technology Foundation of the Phil. asked the SC to stop the award of the contract to the Mega Pacific Solutions, which allegedly failed to comply with the standards set by the terms of reference used in the bidding.

It also asked the SC to order the Comelec to conduct a new bidding.

# Gov't agencies owe ₱2B in telephone bills

**By Carlito Pablo**

CUT the chit-chat.

"Government phones are for service, not tele*babad* (idle use)," said Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr. (Lakas, Camarines Sur), who revealed that the government has piled up a mountain of unpaid telephone bills totaling P2 billion as of June this year.

Andaya, chair of the House appropriations committee, said 50 departments and government agencies alone had arrears of P913 million with the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company.

He wondered how government officers and employees had been making use of official landlines and mobile phones.

"Unfortunately many [offices] have become PABXs (exchanges) for *chismis* (rumors)."

Andaya said the Armed Forces of the Philippines had the highest unpaid bill with P112.8 million.

"I hope the payments for the phone bills were not converted to other uses," said Andaya, alluding to the alleged practice of "conversion," or diverting funds from their intended purpose, by some military officers.

The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office had the second highest bill with P108.6 million.

Andaya said the government's annual budget includes funds for "rational and normal phone usage," and in 2003 the government set aside P1.6 billion for "communication" expenses, including telephone bills.

"The talk 'n text cravings of employees issued government mobile phones must be curbed to prevent atrociously high taxpayer-charged phone bills," Andaya said.

The other government agencies with big unpaid phone bills were the Bureau of Internal Revenue, P58.2 million; Philippine National Police, P57.6M; Department of Public Works and Highways Traffic Engineering Center, P53.1M; Social Security System, P52.8M; Government Service Insurance System, P21.6M; Ninoy Aquino International Airport, P20.9M;

Department of Interior and Local Government, P19.2M; Department of Public Works and Highways, P15.8M; Department of Education, P15.3M; Department of Health, P15.1M; Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, P14.6M; Senate, P14.4M; University of the Philippines, P14.3M; Department of Trade and Industry, P13.6M.

# Finally, Gen. Crame gets a hero's burial

NEARLY 80 years after his death, Brig. Gen. Rafael Crame, the first Filipino chief of the defunct Philippine Constabulary, will finally be accorded a hero's burial.

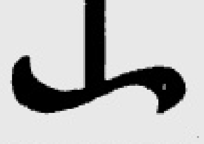
Crame's remains were exhumed at the La Loma Cemetery yesterday and will be transferred to the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Makati today.

Crame, under whose honor the headquarters of the Philippine National Police was named, served as PC chief from 1917 until his death 10 years later at the age of 64.

He rose to prominence by leading successful PC campaigns against several gangs involved in criminal activities mostly in the provinces.

He was awarded the American Medal of Valor for helping quash the Manila mutiny in 1921. He was said to have declined the citation by saying, "I only did my duty." *Christian V. Esguerra*

# CORRECTION



IN the Aug. 6 front-page story on the Magdalo group, the Alibata letter "Ka" was mistakenly referred to as "H." The letter, used by the Makati Mutineers as a symbol of their movement and solidarity, was the same one used by Andres Bonifacio's Katipunan. The editors thank reader Rowie Azada for calling attention to the oversight.

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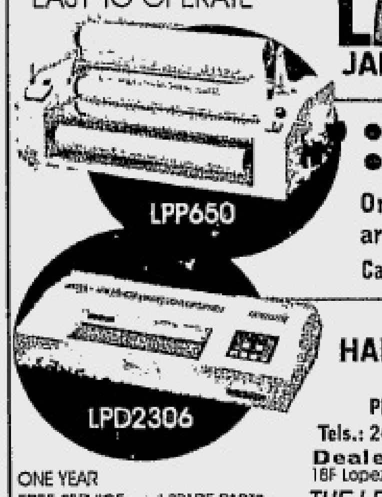

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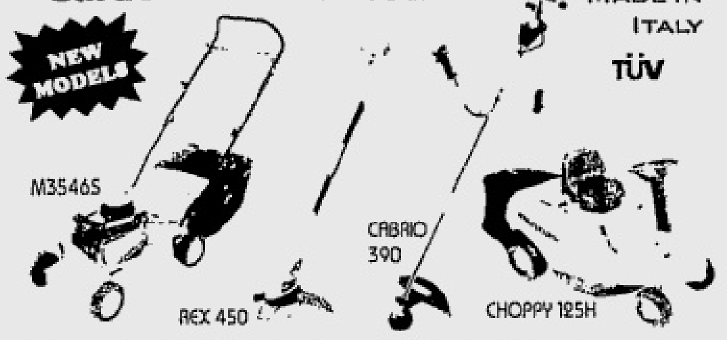

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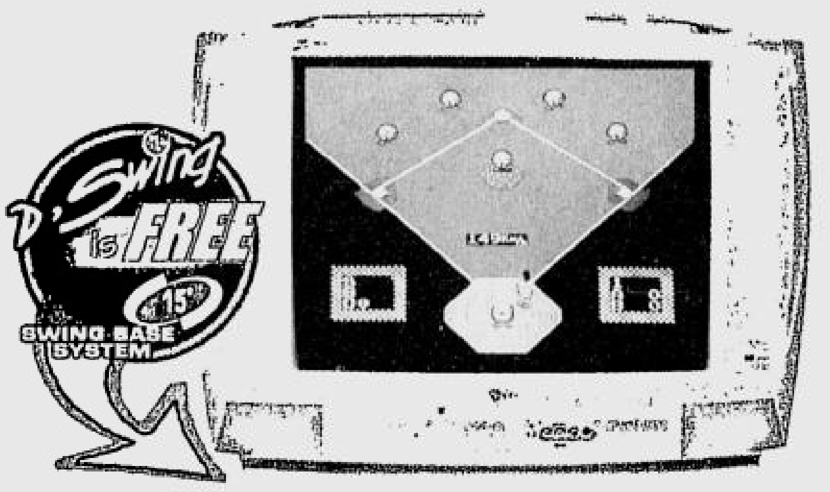

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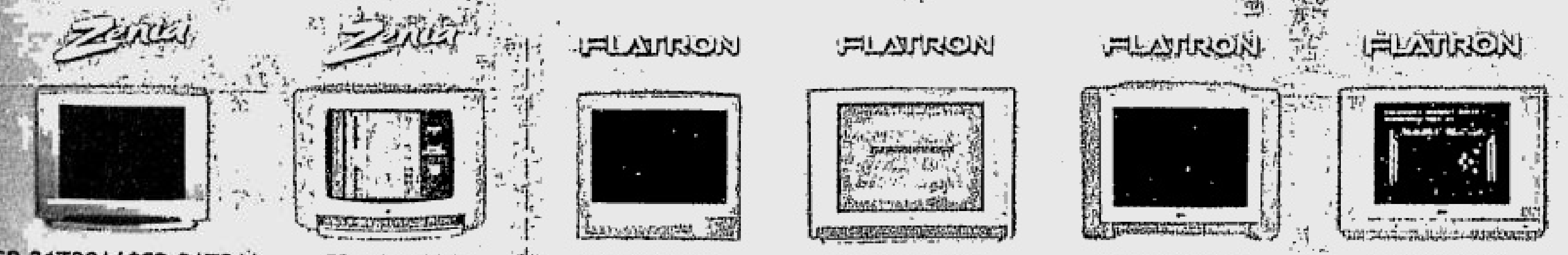

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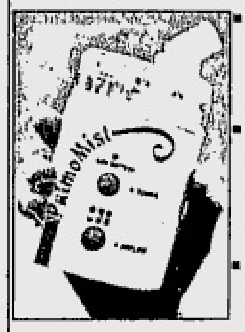

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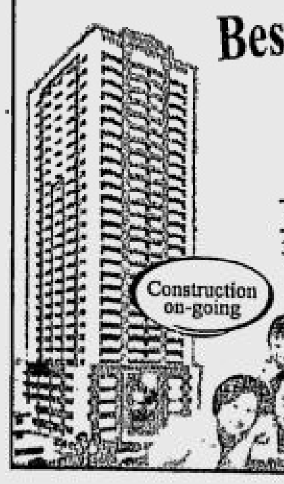

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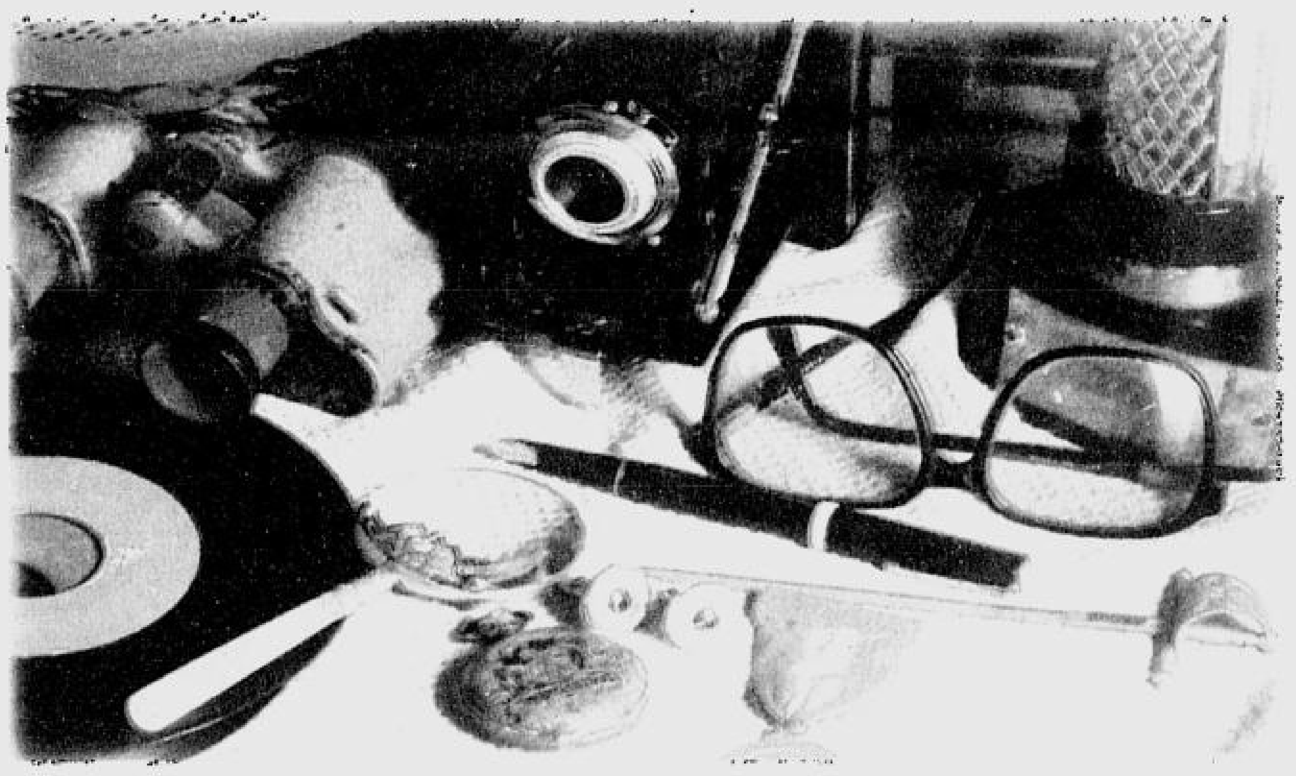

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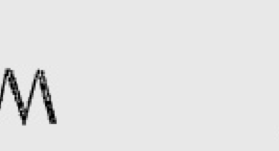

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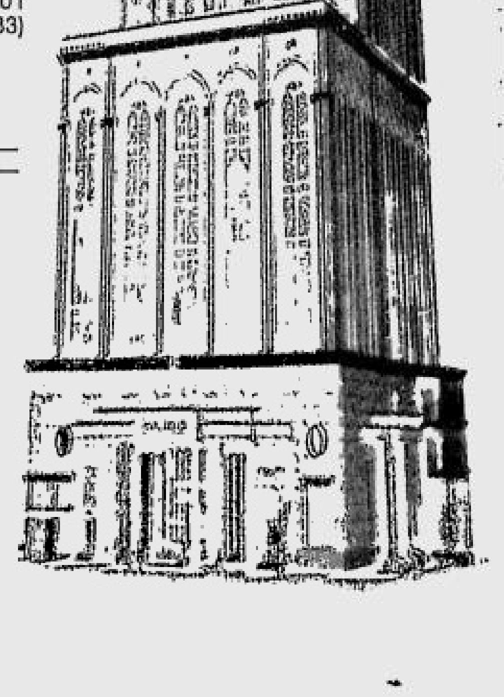

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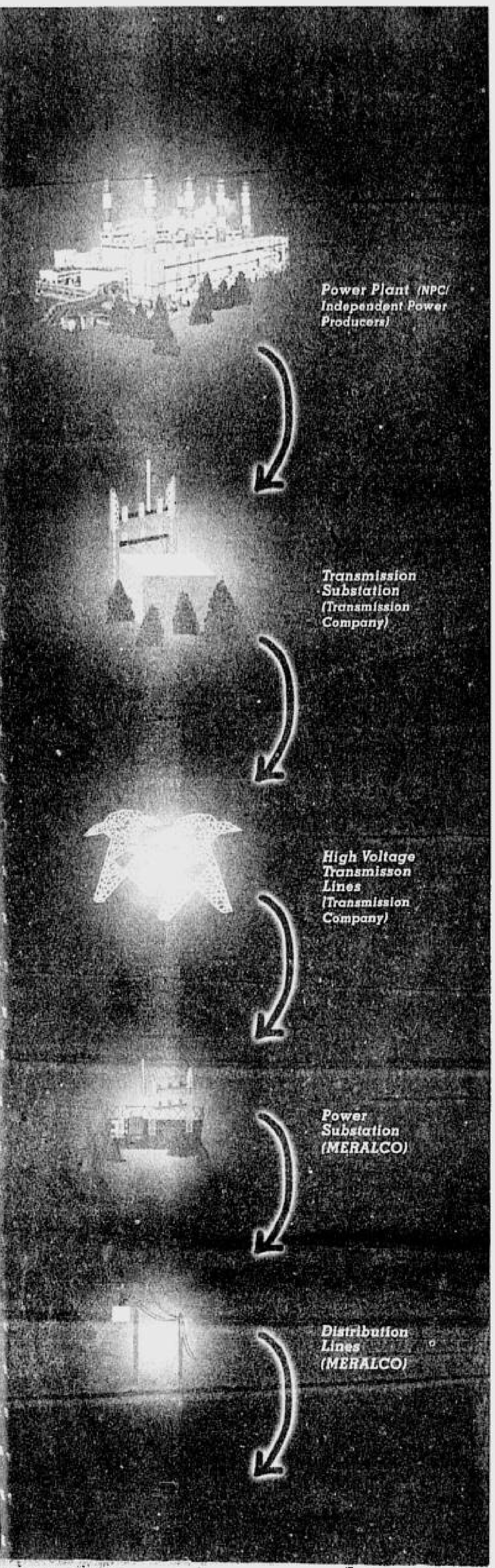
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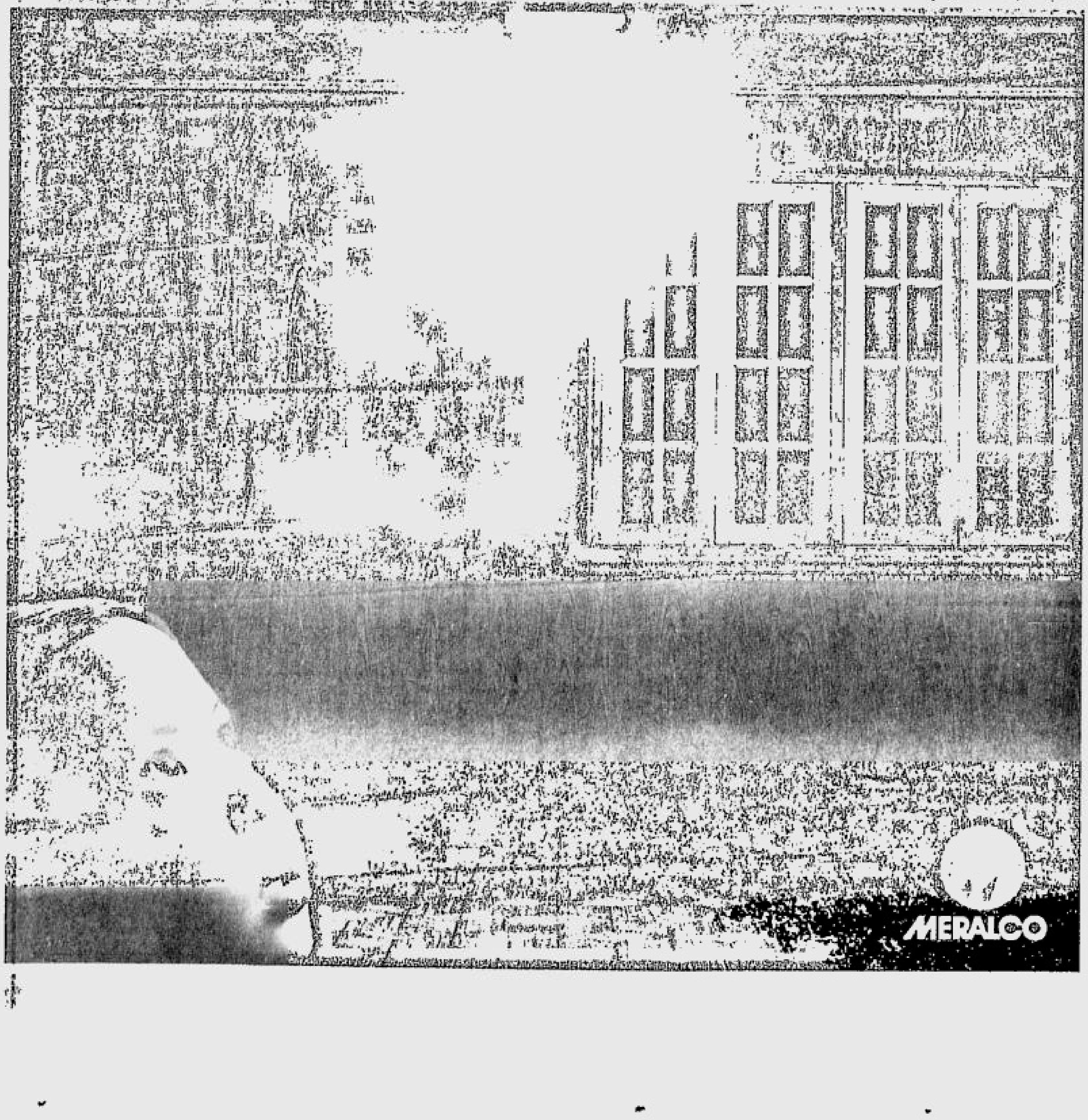

# State of rebellion: 'No such animal'

LAWYERS in and out of government yesterday told a Senate committee hearing that there was "no such legal animal" as a state of rebellion and that President Macapagal-Arroyo may have violated the Constitution in making such a declaration in the wake of the failed July 27 coup.

They said the President's emergency powers to quell a rebellion emanate from her powers as the Commander in Chief but these did not grant her extra powers to declare a state of rebellion.

A former senator, Juan Ponce Enrile, accused the President of declaring a state of rebellion to "immobilize the political opposition." Sen. Aquilino Pimentel described the state of rebellion proclamation as martial law without the name.

The Senate committee on constitutional amendments is conducting an inquiry into "the extent of emergency powers of President Macapagal-Arroyo whenever there is a presidential proclamation of a state of rebellion."

Senate President Franklin Drilon came to the defense of the President, saying that she was just stating a "description of the state of things at this point, that a state of rebellion exists."

"The proclamation itself simply says she is calling on the Armed Forces to quell the rebellion. That is within her powers under the Constitution," Drilon told reporters, reiterating that such a declaration doesn't add any power to the President nor does it suppress civil liberties.

Justice Undersecretary Ricardo Paras, who also testified at the hearing, said the President's proclamation did not curtail civil liberties, such as allowing the warrantless arrest of people.

Retired Supreme Court Justice Santiago Kapunan said he was not saying that the President was unfaithful to the Constitution but that there was a "misapplication or misinterpretation of the provision of the Constitution, especially involving civil liberties."

Emil Ong of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines said the lawyers' group has yet to formulate a position on the but it supported the "intentions of the President" in the action she took.

"But caution should be made not to create fear in the opposition," said Ong, adding that he personally believed there was no need to declare a state of rebellion. *Christine Avendaño with reports from Martin Marfil and Philip Tubeza*

# BSP numbers don't add up

**By Armand N. Nocum**

THE NUMBERS are not adding up at the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

A report by the Commission on Audit (COA) showed the BSP may have just bought P38.8 million worth of computers that could end up being used as little more than typewriters.

The report prepared by COA cluster director Tito Nabua showed the new BSP computers "are not compatible with the existing Local Area Network (LAN) technology."

"It requires a token ring for the workstations and servers to be connected with the network. Thus, the units are operating as stand alone [and] the capacity of the workstations and servers are not fully utilized," the report said.

The report covered the BSP's purchase of 670 Acer Power SD workstations and 25 Acer Altos G700 tower servers.

For the workstations "to conform and be connected with the existing LAN," the report said, the government would have to shell out an additional P12.1 million to install a token ring for all the computers. Likewise, a BSP plan to effect a "migration of LAN from token ring to Ethernet technology" would cost the government P45 million more.

Even after covering the additional expenses, the COA said, the computers could still turn out to be "lemons." "With the very fast developments in information technology, the [computers] would be out-modeled by new equipment with advanced features in a short time," the report said.

The COA blamed the BSP's "deficiencies in procurement" for its failure to formulate an "Information System Plan" which is required of government agencies. The ISP is a blueprint on how an agency intends to embark on its information technology (IT) program.

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# Darna: GMA enjoys musical on super-heroine avenger

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE PRESIDENT took a break from her hectic schedule yesterday to watch the matinee of "Darna," Ballet Philippines' dance-musical, at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

Ms Macapagal, whose battle-cry is a "strong republic" and who has been portrayed as being tough on terrorism, enjoyed the show, according to witnesses.

No member of the First Family accompanied the President, however. Instead, she had for her "date" 11-year-old Jhobelle Maneja, a fifth grade student at the Silangan Elementary School in Taguig, Metro Manila.

Like a solicitous mother, she asked Maneja how he liked the show and the shy pupil replied it was "Okay."

The President watched the one hour and 45-minute show together with some 1,200 students from 28 public schools around Metro Manila and some 300 street children.

After posing for photographs and shaking hands with the cast, the President gamely donned "Darna's" crown which Chin-Chin Gutierrez, who played Darna's archrival Valentina, placed on her head.

In her message in the souvenir program, the President commended Ballet Philippines for the "remarkable production" of Mars Ravelo's well-loved comics creation.

"It is also heartening that after several movies through the decades, this Filipino super-heroine will finally be staged as a dance-musical at the CCP. Along with Darna's exploration of new dance movements, the message that it conveys—that women are strong and can fight for many good causes—is equally laudable," she said.

## Aussie role

Australian Ambassador Ruth Pearce also had a message extolling the dance-musical which her embassy helped stage.

"The amazing acrobatic displays you will see this evening are a product of renowned Australian choreographer Gavin Robin's work and state of the art harnessing equipment which allows the dancers to move through the air," Pearce said.

"Darna," according to the program, has for 50 years been the "symbol of the good each one of us can do, the nobility of character that each person, no matter how ordinary in appearance, can achieve."

It is the classic story of Narda, a young girl raised by her grandmother, who found a magic stone in the forest one day. The stone transformed her into Darna (after the mythical bird), who is extolled as the "flying avenger defending the weak, battling evil and punishing common criminals who roam our streets."

Ravelo's daughter Rita, in the program, said Darna was not based on Wonder Woman but was her father's answer to the then popular Superman.

"Darna was the ultimate super-heroine: bold and compassionate, gorgeous and clever, with classic superpowers—flight, super strength, super speed, she was indestructible to all man-made weapons," the program said.

She is Ravelo's epitome of the "powerful, confident Filipino woman."

# Senate OKs closed-door meet; hearing reset Aug. 14

From page A1

Romulo in a letter sent after President Macapagal-Arroyo held a command conference with defense and security officials at the Palace.

He said that in order to guarantee the mutiny leaders' presence at the Aug. 14 hearing, the Senate had issued a subpoena to Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya.

In his letter, Romulo said Lieutenants Senior Grade Antonio Trillanes IV and James Layug and Captains Gary Alejano, Gerardo Gambala and Milo Maestrecampo would appear at the Senate hearing as long it would be held in a closed-door session and deferred to Aug. 14.

He also asked that future congressional inquiries be held jointly by the Senate and the House of Representatives.

## Romulo letter

"Please be informed of our full support for the Senate inquiry into the July 27, 2003, incident," Romulo said, adding:

"May I state, however, that in accord with Section 22, Article VI of the Constitution, the security of the state and public interest require that the appearances of the foregoing and other resource persons before the Senate as a committee of the whole be conducted in executive session, especially in view of the ongoing intelligence operations."

Romulo also said the request for the deferment of the hearing to Aug. 14 was made on the advice of Armed Forces officials and National Security Adviser Roilo Golez.

## Reasonable request

Drilon said the Senate had no choice but to agree to hold the hearing in executive session because the President invoked national security in making the request.

"Under established jurisprudence, we cannot look behind the political judgment of the President that national security is involved in an inquiry. Therefore, we must accept that at face value," he said.

Drilon said he had informed the other senators about this latest development and stressed to them that Malacañang's request was "reasonable" and would "not cause any prejudice to the inquiry on the proposed legislation."

But opposition Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said the Senate should not delay the investigation under pain of being condemned by the people as a "fawning sycophant" of the President.

"The Senate must stand tall and stick by its order to have the junior officers appear before it [today]," Pimentel said in a text message.

Earlier at a breakfast forum held at the Manila Pavilion, Pimentel defended the holding of separate inquiries on the mutiny. He said the Senate had a different objective, unlike the other investigations supposedly aimed at determining the guilt of the rebel soldiers.

The Senate had asked Abaya in writing to produce the mutiny leaders at the resumption of the inquiry today. It also requested Malacañang for the appearance of certain Cabinet members in charge of national security.

The security officials complained that the congressional inquiries, held for two consecutive days last week, were getting in the way of their filing charges against the coup plotters and going after the civilian backers and military personnel still unaccounted for.

Malacañang sided with a Senate resolution filed by Sen. Joker Arroyo and four others seeking to postpone the inquiry until the government had put "residual threats" under control.

*With reports from TJ Burgonio and Cynthia D. Balana*

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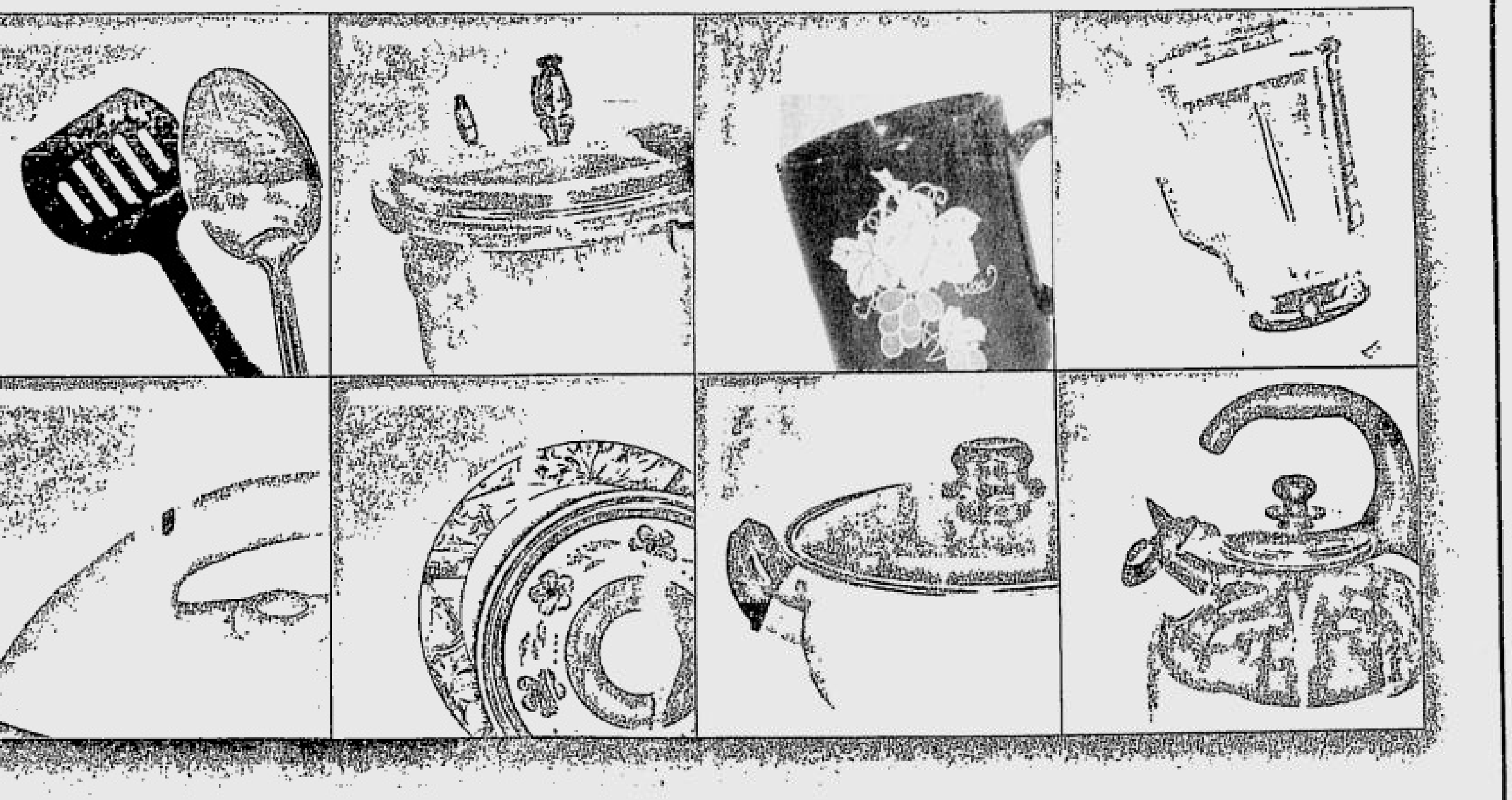

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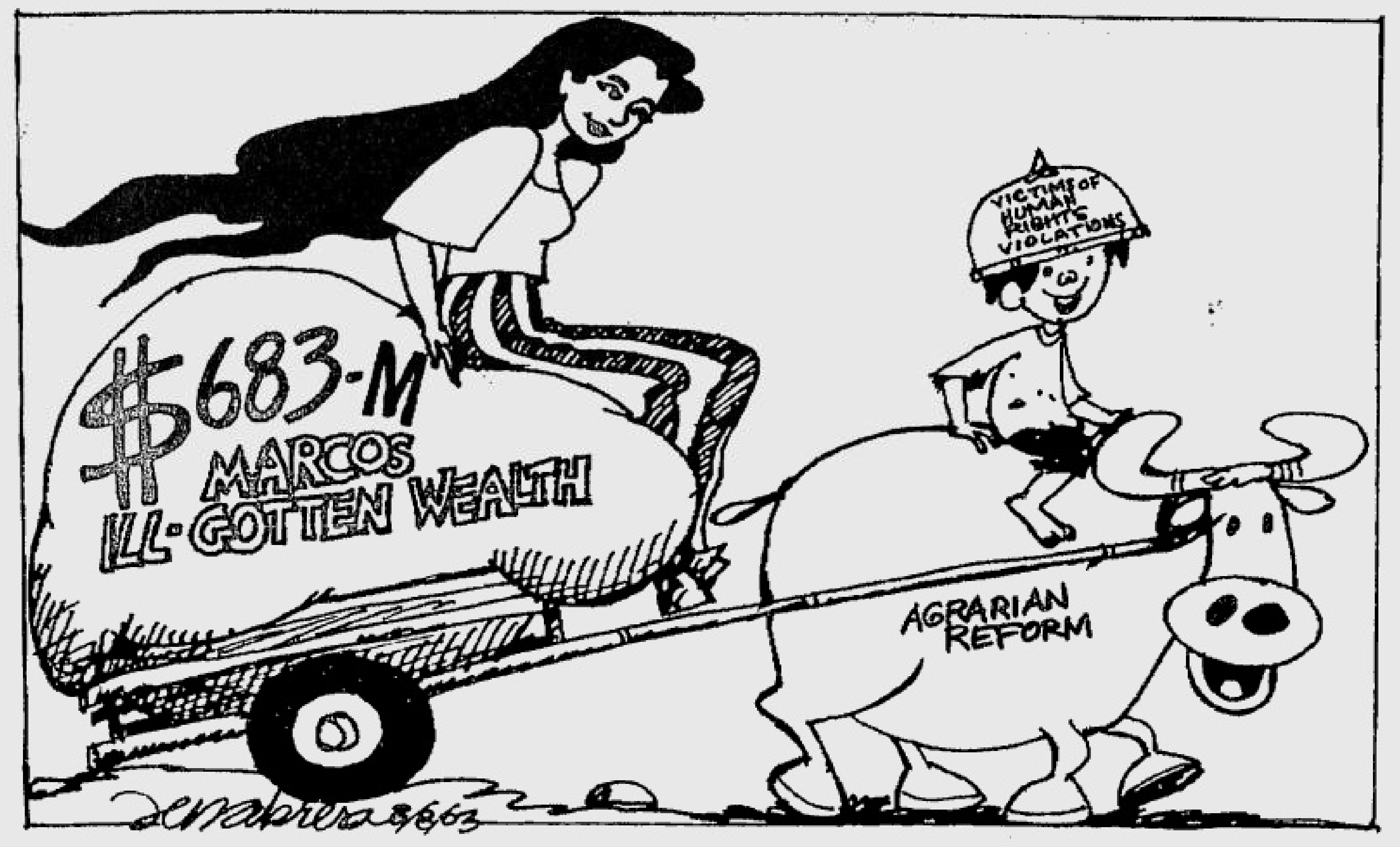

## Sins of omission

**EDITORIAL**

WHILE most of his colleagues continue to preen and pose before television cameras, Sen. Joker Arroyo has stood up to set Congress in the right direction as it seems to have lost its bearings. In times of national emergency, Arroyo reminded his fellow lawmakers in a privilege speech Wednesday, "our primordial concern should be the survival of the duly constituted government and the institutions of democracy." After the July 27 mutiny mounted by junior military officers, he said, Congress' first obligation was to "close ranks" behind the government and assert its "responsibility to preserve our laws and legal institutions."

Arroyo identified Congress' many sins of omission by asking several questions: Has the Senate formally expressed support for the President? Has the House of Representatives done the same thing? Has Congress ever commended the loyal troops "who were ready to die for flag and country"? Has it congratulated the PMA classmates of the renegades who did not join the coup?

While the Sunday mutiny was in progress, several lawmakers and local officials streamed to Malacañang to condemn the rebellion. But that was all. In succeeding days, there was no formal resolution denouncing the power grab, no resolution expressing support for the President and no resolution thanking the officers and men who stood by their oath.

In a legislative body composed of right-thinking individuals, those things would have occupied the highest priority. After all, as Arroyo noted, a victory by the rebels would have led not only to a change of leadership but also to the abolition of Congress itself.

Did the swiftness of the resolution of the crisis perhaps lead the lawmakers to gloss over the fact that our democratic institutions were put in grave peril by the impetuous actions of those young officers? Or did they perhaps accept at face value the mutineers' declaration that they were not out to grab power but only to air their grievances?

The response of both Houses of Congress to the failed coup suggests a readiness to accommodate the plotters more than to defend our democratic institutions. Indeed, among the first things the Senate leadership asked from Malacañang was an assurance that Sen. Gregorio Honasan, who had been tagged by authorities as a principal instigator of the coup plot, would not be arrested without first being formally charged in court, rendering useless in his case the presidential proclamation of a state of rebellion. Next the Senate decided, two days after the coup had been crushed, to look into the grievances of the mutineers through an official inquiry. And the House jumped the gun on the Senate by opening its own separate probe one day earlier than the Senate's.

All this hurry to get the renegades to talk merely shows that both Houses of Congress would rather give priority to listening to the grievances of the rebel officers over "the urgent and imperative need to rally behind the national leadership," as Arroyo put it.

In contrast to this seeming oversight, Arroyo noted that Congress was quick to give emergency powers to then President Corazon Aquino when soldiers, led by Honasan, mounted a similar coup attempt in December 1989. That time, all but one of the country's senators (Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, Honasan's patron) voted for the grant of emergency powers, including three who are still in the Senate: Senators Edgardo Angara, Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and John Osmeña. Now even these three old Senate hands seem to have ignored the call of duty.

Finally, this week the Senate passed a resolution condemning the coup attempt, but still it fell short of the unequivocal backing Aquino got, which had the force of law. Could it be because then almost every senator was with the administration, while now the Senate is split practically down the middle? Is the rush to investigate not motivated by our lawmakers' desire to be seen on nationwide television, especially now with the 2004 elections fast approaching?

If a coup cannot bring our leaders together, what greater calamity has to befall this nation to make them rally around the flag? It is an unkind and terrible thought, but it looks as if our lawmakers have lost the capacity to see beyond their big political ambitions and narrow partisan interests.

## Supreme Court does a boo-boo again

### AS I SEE IT

*Neal H. Cruz*

IF the government had trouble with about 300 disgruntled military officers and men, what would happen if more than 6,000 disgruntled war veterans give vent to their discontentment by doing what the 300 mutineers did? This time, it would not be the fault of the Armed Forces of the Philippines nor of the Macapagal administration, but of the Supreme Court (again) and the Commission on Elections. Once more, the issue is the lack of due process.

The Veterans Federation Party (VFP) was disqualified by the Supreme Court as a party-list participant without getting a chance to defend itself in a hearing. The tribunal had decided on several petitions where the VFP was not even a party. Yet in the decision, the VFP was included among those disqualified. Ironically, the VFP was accredited by the Comelec as a party-list participant in the 1998 elections and had its nominee, Rep. Eduardo Pilapil, elected as a party-list representative to the House of Representatives. In the May 14, 2001 elections, it garnered an overwhelming 576,206 votes, more than enough to entitle it to three seats in the House. Yet, it was disqualified by the Supreme Court. How did this happen?

Because of names. "What's in a name?" Juliet asked. Plenty, if you are a political party. It so happens that there are two other smaller party lists whose names start with "veterans." And it also happens that there is a Veterans Federation of the Philippines, which is a public corporation, not a political party.

One of the two other smaller party-list organizations, Veterans Care, a party of of veterans and dependents also recognized by the Comelec, but which garnered only 31,694 votes or only 0.49 percent of the total votes cast for party list (as against 576,206 votes for the VFP), filed a disqualification petition against the VFP. On May 16, 2001, the Comelec's First Division disqualified the VFP on the ground that it is allegedly "an adjunct of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines." This is false because the latter is a public corporation composed of affiliated veterans organizations; the VFP is a party-list composed of individual members of the veterans themselves. The VFP is not receiving funds from the Veterans Federation of the Philippines nor any assistance from the government.

The VFP filed a motion for reconsideration of the decision of the Comelec First Division, which was elevated to the Comelec en banc.

While the said MR was pending with the Comelec en banc, the Supreme Court, acting on the petitions filed by several party lists (where the VFP was not a party), directed the Comelec to hold hearings to determine the winners in the party-list election on the basis of the 8-point criteria set by the high court.

On July 27, 2001, the Comelec, without informing the VFP and other party-list participants, submitted its recommendations to the Supreme Court. One of those recommended for disqualification was the VFP. On the basis of that recommendation, the Supreme Court proclaimed those qualified party-list participants and those who were disqualified, among them the VFP, which, to repeat, is not a party to the case.

"Unconstitutional," said election lawyer Romulo Makalintal, counsel of the VFP, in an omnibus motion he filed with the tribunal.

"In the said procedure, the Comelec practically surrendered its constitutional power to administer all election laws to the Supreme Court, in that the Comelec became the recommendatory body while the Supreme Court became the approving body," Makalintal said.

"Said procedure is unconstitutional because the Supreme Court can only review and/or set aside a 'decision, ruling or order' of the Comelec if the aggrieved party appeals the said 'decision, ruling or order' to the Court on certiorari," Makalintal explained. "The Constitution does not say that the Supreme Court can act on a mere 'recommendation' of the Comelec to determine whether or not such recommendation is correct. The Supreme Court has no power to approve or disapprove a Comelec recommendation on the latter's action on party-list qualifications. There must be a decision or order or ruling issued by the Comelec and the aggrieved party must raise the same before the Supreme Court on certiorari."

"When the Supreme Court approved the recommendation of the Comelec to disqualify, say the VFP, the latter was deprived of its constitutional right to file his appeal by certiorari to the Supreme Court as provided by the Constitution," Makalintal added.

"What is worse," he went on, "the same recommendation by the Comelec disqualifying party-list participants such as Buhay and Cocofed, was set aside by the Supreme Court upon the recommendation of the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG), the Comelec's own lawyer. The OSG said that the findings of the Comelec were "not supported by substantial evidence."

"Since when did the OSG have the power to revise or amend a recommendation or ruling of the Comelec?" Makalintal asked. "Only the Comelec, by a majority vote of its members, can change its decision or findings. Its lawyer, the OSG, has no such power. This is another issue which has to be clarified by the Supreme Court. Otherwise, future party-list participants will just go directly to the OSG for accreditation."

* * *

**CORRECTIONS: In last Wednesday's (Aug. 6) column, the name of the famous fountain in Rome was misspelled as the "Fontana de Fravi." It should have been "Trevi," not "Fravi."**

**The street bisecting the city of Barcelona, Spain, was also misspelled, twice, as "Las Ramolas." It should have been "Las Ramblas."**

## Idealism

### THERE'S THE RUB

*Conrado de Quiros*

I REMEMBER a story a friend of mine, a former officer of RAM, told me a long time ago. This was at Camp Crame, in the early 1990s. I was visiting some friends who were also detained there. Rodolfo Salas, alias Kumander Bilog, and several other leftist detainees had become friends with the RAM inmates there. He introduced me to them.

The incarceration had given all them, revolutionaries and mutineers alike, much room for soul-searching. The officer I talked to had become particularly pensive.

The first time the real significance of a coup dawned on him, he said, was during the December 1989 attempt. Before that, he said, the idea of a coup had been just that to him, an idea. Despite their previous attempts to bring the Cory government down, running the country remained an abstract concept, something that could be espied only in the distance. The December 1989 coup changed all that. At its height, shortly before the Americans sent their jet planes roaring into the skies to signify their support for the beleaguered government, the possibility of a takeover ceased to be theoretical. It became very, very real.

His first sensation, my friend said, was not elation, it was apprehension. Despite the fact that they had been looking forward to it, glimpsing victory in the horizon was a sobering thought. What particularly worried him, my friend said, was the younger officers. He himself wasn't old but he wasn't young either. He was at that age when certainties had begun to recede from his mind, or soul. Not so the younger officers who had come to believe in their capacity—and right—to cleanse the country in one fell swoop. The cleansing wasn't bound to be metaphorical. Soldiers weren't trained to think of "one fell swoop" metaphorically. The cleansing of the dregs of society was going to be messy. Particularly so as the mutineers had been taught to distrust one category of people deeply—the politicians.

One word kept buzzing in his brain: Bloodbath.

I remembered this when I read about Dinky Soliman's disgust at Lt. (s.g.) Antonio Trillanes IV and company being depicted as a group of idealistic individuals. These "idealistic" people, she said, had just set back the country by several years and made the poor even poorer.

I disagree with her sentiment only in one respect. Clearly, it is not just the mutineers that have set back this country by many years. Dinky's assertion merely gives GMA a ready-made excuse for failure. Henceforth, that government's failings may be attributed to the mutiny. You can almost hear it: If Trillanes and company hadn't done what they did, we would now be—fill in the blanks with your favorite wish—fulfillment. As setting back this country goes, we can't be more set back than being (re)turned into an American colony.

Quite apart from that, it suggests that we forget about the mutineers' charges and just concentrate on reviling them and/or jailing them. That, not quite incidentally, is how government has reduced the problem: It's come down to hunting Gringo Honasan. Who the hell cares about Gringo Honasan? The point is not just punishing the mutineers—of course they should be—it is also punishing the real bombers of Davao.

But I agree completely with Dinky about the dangers of romanticizing the mutiny and mutineers. I myself have gotten to an age where I've become wary of certain kinds of idealism. It's good to have your heart in the right place, but it's even better to have your head screwed to your neck. Or for those who don't like metaphors, it's good to have good intentions, but it's even better to have a good means of carrying them out.

Even if the assumptions about the mutineers' heart are right, you must worry about their head. To begin with, there's something terribly wrongheaded in making a brief against corruption while heeding the counsel, fatherly or conspiratorially, of someone who made an absolute ass of himself defending Erap, the epitome of corruption. The mutineers may never live that down.

Why a coup, in any case? Trillanes says they had no other recourse, they had spoken to their superiors and GMA herself and had been ignored. Ah, but there is an authority higher than the AFP and defense chiefs and the President, as anyone claiming to have a democratic project should know. That is the people. Chavit Singson could not very well count on his friend, patron and president to act on his complaint. So he brought his complaint to the people, and produced the most salutary results.

Far more importantly, idealism is only as good as its vehicle is equally ideal. That is where my RAM friend's story comes to mind. Mounting a coup is not unlike releasing a tiger out of a cage. The problem is how to control it. The revolution waged by the activists of the 1960s and 1970s against martial law was as disciplined and planned as any armed project could be, but it still got out of hand. In the end, it produced the "killing fields."

Projects like this tend to take a life of its own, invariably a monstrous one. Revolutions do tend to devour their own children, as Robespierre warned, and as Danton and Demoulins discovered on their way to the guillotine. And this one is no revolution, this is a mere putsch. Wrought, or wreaked, by a group whose claim to change the world, or their government, rests on the assertion that their heart is in the right place. My friend, the RAM officer, had every reason to fret in their hour of triumph.

I don't know about you, as we Filipinos say, but these days, I prefer the impure benignity of Casablanca's chief of police to the fanatical purity of fire-and-brimstone prophets, or soldiers. For those who never saw the movie, the chief of police there is the fellow who says, "Round up the usual suspects."

# Opportunism

**ANALYSIS**

*Amando Doronila*

BIG business groups, clustered around the Makati Business Club, have shifted gears after President Macapagal-Arroyo lashed them for not backing the government at the height of the failed military mutiny.

The groups, which include the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, the Federation of Philippine Industries and the Chinese-Filipino Business Club, issued a joint statement last Wednesday, urging the court martial of soldiers who staged the July 27 coup d'etat. The change of tune contradicted the MBC's dismissive reaction to the quashing of the takeover of Oakwood hotel, the opening wedge of an attempt to grab power and replace the government with a military junta.

The statement departs from the position of one of the key members of the MBC—the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry—which, shortly after the quashing of the mutiny, urged the government to address the grievances of the rebels with greater priority, rather than deploying emergency powers to defend itself.

The statement indicates that key constituents of the MBC are now distancing themselves from Ricardo Romulo, MBC chair, who has come under fire from the President for his "awful statement" that the swift resolution of the mutiny was not good enough. Taking a dig at Romulo, the President said, "What do you expect from a lawyer of Piatco?"

The MBC's refocus on urging court martial for the rebels not only repudiates Romulo but also foreshadows rumblings inside the MBC for a leadership change. It also highlighted Makati business' opportunism. During the height of the coup, the businessmen showed ambivalence not only by not condemning the mutiny as an illegal expression of grievances, but by accenting the grievances of the soldiers.

The grievances should not be ignored. But the more important issue arising from the mutiny was the attempt to take power with guns, not the corruption charges. The MBC's accent on corruption is a reminder of the inconsistency of the businessmen's position on corruption.

Prior to the mutiny, the MBC had long castigated the administration for canceling government contracts with Piatco, one of whose lawyers is the Romulo Mabanta law firm. The contracts had awarded Piatco rights to operate the newly constructed Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and a monopoly in doling out concessions for operating terminal services. The President annulled the contracts on the grounds that they were onerous, grossly disadvantageous to the public interest, and were shot through with corruption; and as a test of her administration's determination to crack down on corruption.

The MBC, whose chair is Romulo, disguised the obvious conflict of interest he had dug himself into, by arguing that the annulment of the contracts contradicted the government's policy of promoting free enterprise, that it broke the principle of the sanctity of contracts, thus, creating uncertainty over the predictability and continuity of government policies on foreign investments.

That is a false issue raised by the MBC. The real issue, which the MBC muddled, is not policy continuity but breaking the continuity of corruption-ridden contracts.

Apart from the justice department, the Senate blue ribbon committee, chaired by Sen. Joker Arroyo, reached a similar conclusion that the contracts were null and void.

The MBC shifted its attack to the Supreme Court after the latter upheld the annulment of the contracts, accusing the Court of interfering in economic policy beyond the pale of its judicial concerns and of rewriting economic policy through judicial fiat, causing in the process uncertainty over the continuity of policy.

In the case of the Oakwood mutiny, the MBC raised the issue of foreign investors' concerns over the continuing imposition of the state of rebellion, while lawyers' quibble whether or not there's such a creature as a "state of rebellion" in the Constitution. But in an emergency, where government faces a rebellion that threatens its existence, what is more important than quibbling over legal language is that government is availing itself of legal weapons to defend itself and save the republic. What is more important is that the rebellion is crushed and its underground tentacles are rooted out so as to prevent further mutinies in the short term and provide a more stable environment for business even though it does not appreciate the importance of the use of emergency powers.

The Makati establishment is hardly consistent by putting more emphasis on the soldiers' grievances over the right of government to defend itself from violent attack. Clearly the MBC's running battle against the nullification of the Piatco contracts is symptomatic of its skin-deep devotion to the campaign against corruption for which it never misses the opportunity to deliver sermons about the need for good corporate citizenship and social responsibility. The MBC should show better judgment than making Piatco the model of corporate citizenship.

For another thing, the Makati-based businessmen were never alarmed by the penetration by soldiers, planting bombs and aping terrorist methods, into their enclave. What causes them to have nightmares are not coup attempts or marauding soldiers, but the rabble marching on Ayala Avenue denouncing poverty and social inequity. When the mobs stormed Malacañang on May 1, 2001, the Makati establishment never asked the government to address the concerns of the poor. Addressing soldiers' grievances is one way for businessmen to buy insurance—just in case the coup succeeds.

# Some exciting news

**AT LARGE**

*Rina Jimenez-David*

ANOTHER reaction to the columns on cervical cancer that came out in this space last month comes from Dr. Wen Del Rosario-Raymundo, an obstetrician-gynecoloist sub-specializing in ob-gyn infectious diseases.

A product of the UP College of Medicine's Intramed Program, she trained in UP-PGH both for her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology and a fellowship in infectious diseases. She was with the UP-PGH ob-gyn faculty until 1995 when, after her marriage, she says, "I opted to downshift and relocate to Laguna," though she is still active in the lecture circuit and confesses to being quite passionate about the subject of cervical cancer and its prevention and cure. So passionate, in fact, that she wrote one letter and a "*pahabol*" letter the day after the first column appeared.

In her first letter, Wen affirms that "there is indeed a need to create awareness regarding (the issue of cervical cancer) because although much has been written about cancer of the cervix, it is not common knowledge (even among doctors) that HPV (the human papilloma virus) is associated with over 99 percent of cervical carcinomas and high-grade cervical dysplasias."

No discussion of current management options for HPV, says Wen, "will be complete without mention of the HPV vaccines which are currently in the pipeline."

She mentions several bio-research and pharmaceutical companies that are currently working on Phase III trials, that is, clinical trials on human subjects, of a vaccine that can actually confer protection against HPV infection, and consequently, protection against cervical cancer. Among the major players in such research efforts are Merck and Glaxo Smith Kline.

"The preliminary results have been very, very promising, to say the least, and these HPV vaccines are actually exciting developments in the field of STI/STD vaccines."

* * *

**WEN adds that the anti-HPV vaccines are also called "daughter vaccines" since "theoretically, they should be administered before a young female is sexually active, since HPV infection is highly associated with sexual activity (both penetrative and non-penetrative)."**

**Wen adds that not even a condom can provide absolute protection against HPV "since it may be passed on through skin-to-skin contact and penetration is not a requisite."**

**Dr. Raymundo, however, wishes to clarify a point I raised in the first column on cervical cancer where I said that: "....Only lately (as recent as November last year, in fact) has a test been developed to detect the presence of the HPV DNA. The test, as described by Dr. (Rebecca) Singson, entails taking cervical swabs, much like a Pap smear, using the brush from the Digene (the company that developed the test) Cervical Sampler."**

**Tests to detect the presence of HPV DNA are not recent developments, notes Wen, "and have, in fact, been available in the States as early as the mid-1990s."**

**She says Digene developed its first-generation hybrid DNA probe in 1995, and "this was used to determine the grade of HPV-related disease in confirmed cases and to support equivocal Pap smear results."**

**To say the HPV DNA test is a recent development, says Wen, is to "trivialize the other advances made in pathogen detection both using amplified and non-amplified DNA technology, especially those developed by companies other than Digene Corporation."**

* * *

WELL, isn't this exciting news? Not only are more accurate tests being developed to detect the presence of cancer-causing HPV, but vaccines are even on the horizon that could prevent transmission of the HPV itself!

As I said in the earlier columns on cervical cancer, the biggest problem with the HPV DNA test is its cost (more than P2,000), placing it out of the reach of poor Filipino women. Whatever its shortcomings, the basic Pap Smear may still be the only test available for ordinary Pinays. And at P50 per procedure in government health centers, it is certainly affordable and accessible, given, of course, that the re-agents and other chemicals needed to perform the diagnostic tests are available—another story altogether.

But as previous columns show, not too many women in this country are even aware of what a Pap Smear is, or that an annual Pap Smear should be part of basic health care for every sexually active woman. (Dr. Singson says even adult virgins should go for a Pap Smear at least once, to establish a base line record.) As Dr. Maricar Guevarra pointed out in yesterday's column, the reason death rates from cervical cancer have gone down drastically in developed countries is that "aggressive" information and education campaigns convinced women to make a Pap Smear or other tests for HPV and cervical cancer a part of their annual check-up.

* * *

**FINALLY, I'd like to point out that the diagnosis and treatment of cervical cancer—and the lack of public awareness about this second (but deadliest) most prevalent form of cancer among women—is part of the package of services that the "Reproductive Health Care Act" seeks to guarantee to all citizens, and not just women.**

**Cervical cancer, in fact, would fall into two of the 10 aspects of reproductive health—cancers of the reproductive tract, and sexually transmitted infections and diseases. The high death rates from cervical cancer among Filipino women are in fact testimony to our poor overall reproductive health status. In a society where sexual activity is still frowned upon and moral judgments on the matter are handed down so easily and quickly, it seems that a woman who is, or even just perceived to be, more sexually active than most is deemed to be deserving of whatever fate awaits her, be it pregnancy, cancer, or even death.**

# Will Japan go nuclear?

**FEATURE**

*Elaine Lies*

HIROSHIMA, Japan—For months after the world's first atomic bomb to be used in war was dropped on his hometown, Sunao Tsuboi expected each day to be his last.

Tsuboi was 20 on Aug. 6, 1945, and was walking to university when the bomb, nicknamed "Little Boy," exploded over Hiroshima, hurling him 30 feet and burning much of his body. When he regained consciousness, the city was engulfed in a sea of flames.

Nagasaki was bombed three days later and World War II ended a week after that. But for Tsuboi, the battle continued.

"For nearly 100 days, the doctor told me, 'This is the day you will die,'" said Tsuboi, whose genial face is visibly scarred. "But I am a human phoenix. I was reborn."

The Hiroshima city government says the bomb killed more than 220,000, including those who died of cancer years later.

Now, Tsuboi and others worry that as survivors age and memories fade, the question of Japan assuming a greater military role, or even becoming a nuclear power, is taking on new life.

The issues have become more open since it emerged that neighboring North Korea has a nuclear weapons program.

"It's been too long since the war," said Tsuboi, sitting in the office of a survivors' group near Hiroshima's Peace Park. "Young people aren't concerned, and adults are forgetful too. People have become too accustomed to peace."

Kumi An, a 28-year-old Hiroshima native out for a day of shopping at a local mall, is a case in point. "I think of the bombing when the anniversary approaches. But the rest of the time, I'm busy with my own life," she said.

Japan, where people are raised on stories of the suffering in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, has long been staunchly pacifist and anti-nuclear, and its constitution renounces war.

> There are hints of changing views on the long-term taboo of whether Japan should have its own nuclear weapons

But now, with the threat from North Korea looming, and survivors of the bombing dying—their average age is over 71—things may be starting to change.

"North Korea is scary, that's for sure," said 29-year-old Akira Sato, visiting Hiroshima from Hokkaido in northern Japan. But summing up the opinion of most that Japan should be nuclear-weapons free, he adds: "Certainly it's not good if a nearby nation has nukes, but too many people here have felt pain." "Definitely public opinion is starting to shift in a new direction," said Takashi Inoguchi, a Tokyo University political scientist. "It is changing toward a broader definition of the use of force in settling international disputes."

There have been calls to revise the constitution, whose key Article Nine renounces war as a means of settling international disputes. And last month, Japan passed a law allowing the largest post-war dispatch of its military to help rebuild Iraq.

There are hints of changing views on the long-term taboo of whether Japan should have its own nuclear weapons.

Japan currently relies on the "nuclear umbrella" provided by the United States—which dropped the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki—in an alliance that serves as its foreign policy cornerstone.

For decades, the question was so controversial that bringing it up was close to political suicide. In 1999, a junior cabinet minister was forced to quit just for suggesting it be debated.

Last summer, though, two key members of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's cabinet sparked a domestic and diplomatic furor with remarks implying Japan might someday scrap its nuclear ban. Both, however, kept their jobs.

The North Korean nuclear crisis may change things further. Regional tensions have risen, even prompting some US politicians to float the possibility of Japan going nuclear.

Debate on the issue may be increasing, but analysts say any chance of Japan's going nuclear remains extremely remote.

"Nobody is thinking seriously about this," Inoguchi said. "Besides, it would be counter-productive. This is an unstable area of the world and some people would get the wrong opinion."

Survivors like Tsuboi are still worried, however. "Now, there are only a few people who feel that Japan should go nuclear," he said. "But if we don't watch out, it'll spread. People don't understand how terrible this is, that if there is a nuclear war, there are no winners or losers. Even if you come out alive, you'll be left with nothing."

*Reuters*

# Of idealism and democracy

**COMMENTARY**

*Junefe Gilig Payot*
*Institute on Church and Social Issues*

MY two female colleagues suggested over lunch that we should invite the leaders of the mutiny to a forum on corruption since that was one of their grievances and since it matched perfectly with our institute's anti-corruption advocacy. But I knew their ulterior motives too well. The Monday after the mutiny, I overheard one tell the other how handsome Navy Lt (s.g.) Antonio Trillanes IV and Army Capt. Gerardo Gambala—two of the leaders of the mutiny—were. And when President Macapagal-Arroyo vowed in her State of the Nation Address that the mutiny leaders will go to jail, my colleagues were naturally saddened. They suggested that the officers, particularly Trillanes and Gambala, should be put under house arrest instead—in their (my female colleagues') houses.

But when I probed into their real motives, my female colleagues swore that in fact, they admired the two officers for their intense idealism more than their good looks. I pretended to believe them. Indeed, much has been said about their intense idealism although they have been roundly criticized for their method that endangered democracy. I myself am not so sure about their idealism because in my book, idealism is incompatible with violence—actual or threatened.

Besides, I thought idealistic men in uniform do not exist anymore. And many will agree with me. And we have many reasons to think so. Indeed, I have come to think that many of our soldiers have become mercenaries now. And we'll have more reason to think so if the mutineers are proven to have been funded by politicians out to grab power for themselves.

Moreover, some of our higher-ranking officials may in fact be worse than mercenaries if it is proven that they have been making money out of the military conflicts in Mindanao as alleged by the mutineers. Worse, because while mercenaries put their lives on the line in exchange for money or power, these high-ranking officials put other people's lives—military as well as civilian—on the line while they get the money and power. Also, while mercenaries are fiercely loyal when they are paid, one now has reason to doubt the loyalty of the uniformed higher-ups who are paid much by the Filipino people. Thus, one has to be careful about all this talk about idealism in the military.

However, during one of the interviews he gave to the media, an agitated Trillanes said something that I hoped came from his supposed idealism. Asked if he wasn't concerned about the effect of their mutiny on the economy, Trillanes answered with another question: Why care about an economy that does not help the poor? Whether it was borne out of his supposed idealism or not, he raised a point that's worth thinking about.

Poverty reduction is the overarching goal of government policies. But poverty seems as palpable as ever even as the President swore in her last Sona that in her administration, the poor do not have to wait for mere trickles.

Someone said that a real democracy takes care of its poor. Now, we claim to be a democracy. In fact, the mutiny was considered a "threat to our democracy." But do we take care of our poor? If we don't, then are we really a democracy? I kept asking these questions when I was at the Edsa Shrine, to pray for the preservation of the presidency, the night before the supposed coup.

There at the shrine, people were saying many things about defending democracy. Frankly, even though one keeps hearing it, democracy is still too vague a concept to grasp. I do not doubt the sincerity of the people at Edsa, otherwise I would not have joined them. But sometimes, all the talk about democracy seems hollow and confusing.

I was further confused when I saw the prayer leaders using the "Sound Truck" of the Metro Manila Development Authority. It was a van loaded with speakers and phones. On one side of the van was written "Sidewalk Clearing Operations Group." They were using the facilities of the very same agency that is destroying the poor vendors' livelihoods—to defend and pray for democracy! Weren't they aware of the MMDA's "operations"? It sure is difficult to be aware of such things when you have your own car and a nice bed in fenced houses inside gated communities.

From the start, I was already wary about the prayer vigil turning out to be an exclusively middle to upper class undertaking. Thankfully, I saw Ka Poneng there, an urban poor leader and my fears were somewhat assuaged. Until now, I still wonder what she thought about the use of the facilities of the MMDA, the scourge of vendors, or if she was even aware of it.

So there I was at the steps of the shrine, confused about many things while struggling to keep myself awake, which was made very difficult by the soporific voice of the prayer leaders who were praying the rosary painfully slowly. Only the occasional mistakes in pronunciation—priests and nuns are also human—and sometimes discordant singing elicited giggles and perked the thin crowd up.

During the Mass, at about 4 the following Sunday morning, Father Magadia, S.J. said in his homily that our struggle to keep awake is a perfect illustration of our need to be alert about threats to democratic institutions, such as, coup d'etats. But I'd like to take it a little further. Aside from being alert against destabilizers, and pseudo-idealists, we should also always be alert about the further marginalization of the poor and about promises made to address it.

While we try to protect freedom, in general, we should protect the freedom of the poor to earn a living. We should be alert about people being left behind in the untrammeled drive for economic development (pseudo-development?). It is difficult to do, but the real idealist, I think, will do his best.

## THEY SAID

### Life in color

"A person who loves nature and has a burning passion to preserve it is a man of peace—living a lively, interesting and colorful life."

*—Mae Lynda Acosta, explaining her masterpiece, a painting focusing on nature*

### Hallucination

"The declaration to eradicate the drug problem will remain just that—a declaration. No matter how tough the President talks about fighting this scourge of society, if the government continues to act softly on the issue of death for traffickers, the anti-drug campaign will just be in vain."

*—Sen. Rodolfo Biazon*

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# Farmers against 'farmlands as collaterals'

THE INCLUSION of "farmland as collateral" (FAC) in President Macapagal-Arroyo's Sona for the third time has left peasant groups dismayed.

Farmers contest FAC on two grounds. Firstly, the assumption that collateralizing farmlands will ensure greater access to credit is misguided because (a) commercial bankers do not want to lend to farmers, a sector they generally considered high-risk; and (b) the farmers have low absorptive capacity. The Banker's Association of the Philippines submits that they would not accept FAC because ARBs are still paying for the loans on their lands, which they probably will not be able to repay.

The problem of credit flow to farmers is not primarily the lack of funds, but the absorptive capacity and credit worthiness of the farmers. With lack of support and infrastructure, agriculture in the Philippines is "high risk."

Secondly, instead of helping the farmers to access credit, FAC (bills that would allow this are pending with Congress) actually endangers the farmers by putting their ownership at risk. It would reverse the social justice intention of CARL.

Senate Bill 2553 of Sen. Serge Osmeña intends to (a) lift the 10-year restriction on the transferability of land and (b) remove the provision that limits land retention to five hectares.

Given that farmers are often indebted, lifting the restriction on transferability of land at this time would only serve to legitimize usurious lending. Lifting of retention limits will allow for reconsolidation of large tracts of lands, which will render the government's investment in agrarian reform worthless.

Unscrupulous traders could profit by offering the ARBs a loan to pay off their bank amortization which is usually lower than the value of the land due to government subsidies. So, lenders could get land for a fraction of its worth with the government the one paying.

Through democratic processes, farmers have consistently informed the administration of their opposition to FAC at this time.

For a democratic process to work, however, not only do the citizens need to be able to express themselves. Decision-makers also need to listen to them. FAC in one Sona could be construed as misinformed. In three Sonas it is downright insulting. It merely tells farmers that the democratic process is not the way to get their position heard.

If the President's intention is to increase farmers' access to credit, we request, once more, that she de-prioritize FAC and instead implement the comprehensive package of proposals drawn up by peasant and civil society groups with Land Bank and the Department of Agrarian Reform. The farmers are tired of being ignored.

**—NINA ISZATT,**
**policy advocacy officer,**
**Kaisahan tungo sa Kaunlaran ng**
**Kanayunan at Repormang Pansakahan,**
**3 Mahabagin St., Teachers' Village, QC**

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# On the Makati crisis, Part 2

**VOICES ON INQ7.NET**

THERE is nothing new about corruption in the government and military. There is nothing new about the low salary that soldiers and every other common worker in this country are getting. There is nothing new about military men selling ammunition to terrorists.

All these years, we have been tolerating corruption, unjust labor practices and military connivance with terrorists. All of a sudden, a single act of mutiny, with no intention of harming any civilian, is now getting all the flak for threatening foreign investors and putting this country back to the dark ages.

Trillanes and his gang committed a crime. There is no question about it. But their crime is no less evil than the crimes that they have exposed. Come to think of it: what is the real threat to our economy and sovereignty? Did the mutineers ask help from another country to kill their fellow Filipinos? Did they turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to maltreated, underpaid laborers to appease investors and maintain our country's reputation for cheap labor?

They should not get away unpunished. However, let us not forget the other criminals, who, up to now, are enjoying the fruits of their corruption and are even holding influential positions in the land.

Trillanes and his gang "threatened" the government, not to scare President Macapagal-Arroyo and her officials out of their wits, but to remind them that people are watching. Trillanes and his gang made the legislature, government and the military not just talk, but act toward real reforms.

They got most of us thinking. Now that's something new.—**Ralph Waldo M.**

* * *

Edsa People Power II obviously exposed the lack of honor in the military. Believe me, I'm no fan of former President Joseph Estrada; he was a crook. But a soldier swears allegiance to the Constitution, period! And he's required to uphold the laws of the "people's document" in spite of mobs, cardinals, or political columnists. Yet, they abandoned their oaths of allegiance and duty as quickly as one turns off a light switch.

If honor does not become an instinctive attribute of the Filipino soldier's psyche, it will be only a matter of time before allegiances are sold to the highest bidder.—**Kevin A. Flynn**

* * *

I believe in the grievances of the mutineers. The coup leaders could not have decided to stage the mutiny if they were not sure what they were about to do was right. If some groups were behind their cause, that's not an issue. You can't have any courage to manifest your grievances without external support.—**Ray Gaspay**

* * *

I really admire Lt. (s.g) Antonio Trillanes IV for his bravery and patriotism. But no matter how legitimate his group's grievances are, we cannot ignore the fact that there is the Constitution to follow. And there are so many problems that cannot be changed in an instant. We have this so-called due process guaranteed by the Constitution. But I warn this government not to ignore the grievances of the junior officers.—**Pacifico P. Rebollos Jr.**

* * *

The mutineers' recent grievance cry is so pathetic. If they are so brilliant, as some say, don't they even know how much they would have been earning if they had opted for a military career? If they are complaining about low pay, then they should have resigned. Military adventurism will continue unless somebody is punished to the full extent of the law.—**Alberto Acosta**

* * *

For all that has been said about the Magdalo rebellion, it had one positive outcome: it made the people more aware of the venalities that prevail in our military establishment and elsewhere in the Philippine bureaucracy. To the extent that those young soldiers have set corrective measures in motion, to that extent have they done something good for our country.—**Niceto S. Poblador**

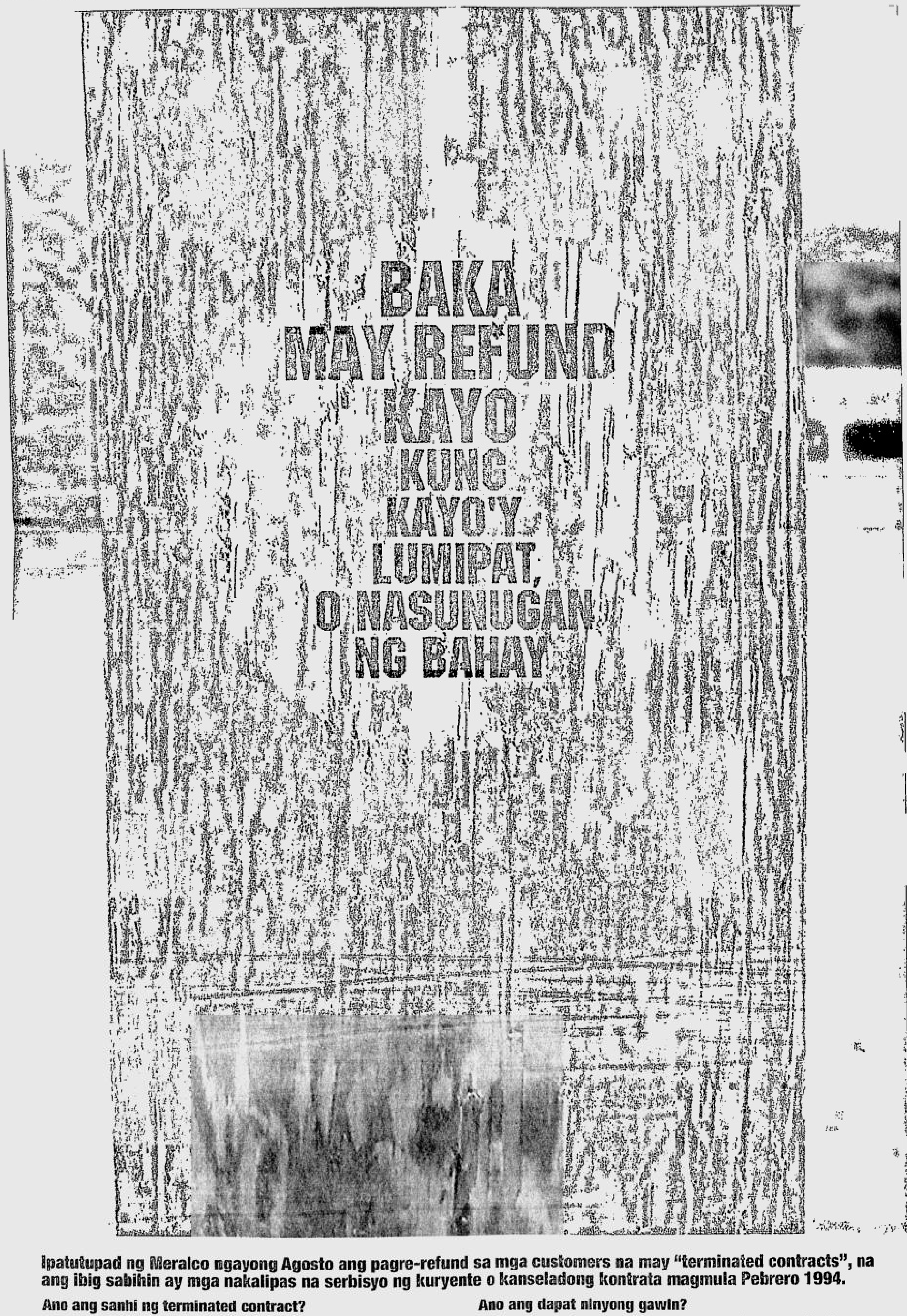
* * *

Such is the failure of social reform that the majority of the Filipino people have become skeptical about any hope of change—whether from the corrupt politicians, the discredited left, the greedy businessmen, the scandal-ridden Catholic Church and the co-opted civil society.

The extent of skepticism is such that what, not too long ago, we would have condemned as a power grab or military adventurism, we now applaud as a show of principles or "balls," and their perpetrators we now declare idols or heroes, who at the very least, should be admired or respected and not treated with the contempt they deserve.

Some argue that the latest misadventure was a positive thing, for it pointed out the extent of corruption in the military and in the government and the need for reforms. Never mind that it has caused a major setback to our already long-fragile political and economic stability. Never mind that it has reinforced the military's politicization and interventionism in civilian affairs, which will probably take decades to reverse. Never mind that political interests seem to have conspired in this power grab.

I hope they are right.—**Jun Virola**



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# The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

# 7 killed in bomb attack on Jordan Embassy in Iraq

**BAGHDAD—Seven people were killed and 40 wounded when a car bomb exploded outside Jordan's embassy in Baghdad Thursday, a doctor said, dealing a new blow to US efforts to restore order to the country.**

Following the explosion dozens of Iraqis invaded the embassy, screaming curses against Jordan and the Jordanians and tearing up portraits of King Abdullah II, an AFP correspondent witnessed.

A Jordanian government spokesperson described the blast, which was not immediately claimed, as "a cowardly terrorist attack."

The reasons for the attack were not immediately clear, though Jordan recently gave asylum to relatives of ousted Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, who is still at large despite the best efforts of occupying US forces to track him down.

The blast came 99 days after US President George W. Bush declared major combat operations in Iraq over, though senior US military officials admit the war against Saddam's supporters and other opponents of the occupation is far from ended.

Gen. Raymond Odierno, the head of the 4th Infantry Division (4ID), said in Saddam's hometown of Tikrit Thursday that the military had arrested 49 people overnight, including four Saddam loyalists.

"One was a Fedayeen leader arrested in Tikrit, one was a former regime loyalist in Tikrit, and two were former associates of (Saddam's sons) Qusay and Uday in Kirkuk," Odierno said.

The general estimated that Saddam was "on the run, moving every hour to six hours, he could be in the area."

"He is changing locations every day" because his hiding network is being destroyed as the 4th ID continues with hard-hitting raids that have been carried out over the past 16-17 days, he said.

Odierno also alleged, "Now they have to pay people more money to conduct anti-US operations. Before it was $250 to conduct an attack, $1,000 if it was successful."

He listed the new price for an attack at $1,000 and a successful kill at $5,000.

The 4ID is scouring the area around Tikrit, Saddam's hometown, 175 km north of Baghdad, in search of the fugitive strongman, who has a $25-million price on his head.

But the top US ground commander in Iraq, General Ricardo Sanchez, said in an interview published Thursday that troops would be less aggressive in their searches to avoid alienating the local population.

The change in tactics follows a drop in the number of attacks on coalition forces in Iraq, increased reliance on local intelligence and advice by local leaders and the population, Sanchez told the New York Times.

He said the improved intelligence enabled a "precision approach" in planning and carrying out operations to capture Saddam Hussein supporters.

There were "multiple indicators" that "our iron-fisted approach... was beginning to alienate Iraqis," he said, adding that the complaints came from members of the US-installed Governing Council and the population in general.

Their message," he said, has been that "when you take a father in front of his family and put a bag over his head and put him on the ground, you have had a significant adverse effect on his dignity and respect in the eyes of his family." *AFP*

## WORLDBRIEFS

### Israel frees Palestinians

BETUNIA, West Bank—Israel released more than 330 Palestinian prisoners on Wednesday in what it called a gesture to bolster a US-backed peace "road map." Palestinian officials dismissed the move as a sham. The first prisoner freed flashed a V-for-victory sign at cheering relatives waiting at a checkpoint outside the West Bank town of Betunia and smiled broadly as he stepped off a bus that brought him from an Israeli jail. Others kissed the ground, watched closely by armed Israeli soldiers, before boarding Palestinian vans for the trip home for tearful reunions and embraces with relatives and friends. Right-wing Israelis and relatives of victims of Palestinian suicide bombings opposed the decision to begin freeing the Palestinians, though none of those released was directly involved in attacks. ***Reuters***

### Europe still bakes

PARIS—The sweltering heat suffocating much of Europe showed no signs of abating Thursday, after several areas set new temperature records and firefighters continued to battled deadly forest fires across the southern part of the continent. With what French forecasters described as a "dome of hot air" stuck over much of the continent, residents of cities across Europe again wilted on Wednesday as temperatures hit 40 degrees Celsius. Worse yet, meteorologist Jerome Lecou of France's national weather service Meteo France said the nighttime cooling effect was being progressively reduced so that each day risked being hotter than the previous one. The searing heat coupled with severe drought across much of southern Europe has sparked deadly wildfires in Croatia, France, Italy, Spain and Portugal, resulting in more than 30 deaths and forcing thousands to flee their homes. ***AFP***

### Taylor farewell speech

ABUJA—Embattled Liberian President Charles Taylor will give an address to his country's parliament on Thursday in which he will announce his intention to resign, the head of west African regional grouping Ecowas said. Taylor will address a joint session of the Liberian parliament to "inform them of his intention to resign," a prelude to his handing over to his successor on Monday and his departure for Nigeria, Mohammed Ibn Chambas, told journalists. "We believe that the departure of President Taylor from Liberia will create the possibilities for a new beginning for that country," said Chambas, executive secretary of the 15-nation Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas). A second battalion of Nigerian troops for the peacekeeping operation in Liberia will start to deploy as from Saturday, he added. ***AFP***

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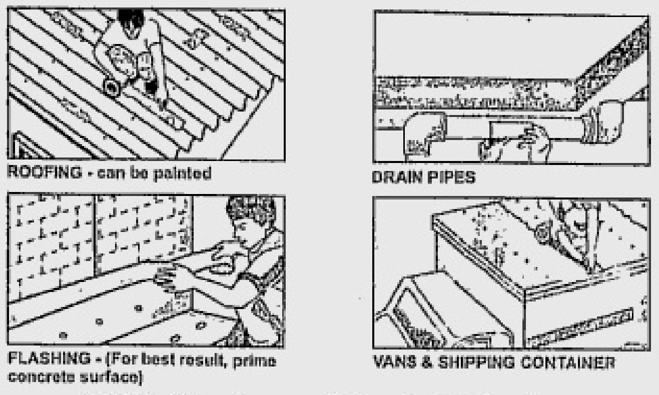
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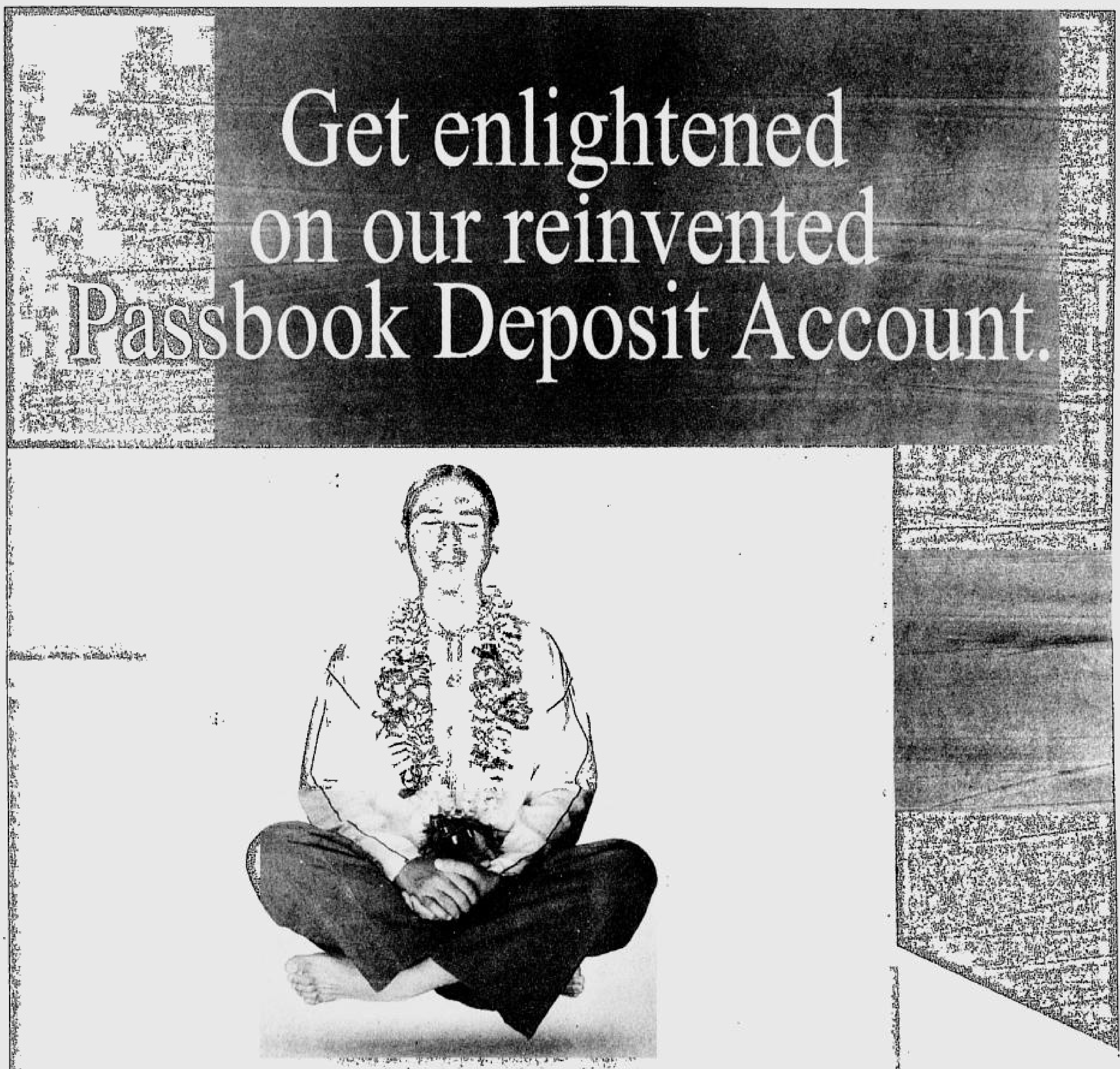

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# 'Gover-nator' Arnie jumps into California politics

LOS ANGELES—Action film star Arnold Schwarzenegger defied predictions, stunned California and frightened Democrats on Wednesday when he announced he would run for governor in a bid to terminate Gov. Gray Davis' political career.

Widely expected to bow out of the governor's race and endorse former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan in the recall election, Republican Schwarzenegger instead declared himself ready to lead the troubled state even though he has never held a single public office.

The news sent shock waves through the California Democratic Party which has vivid memories of another actor who quit the stage for Republican politics, Ronald Reagan, a two-term governor and two-term president.

Appearing on NBC's "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," Schwarzenegger said his message to politicians of both parties was: "You do your job and you do it well or else you're out and it's *hasta la vista*, baby"—a line from the "Terminator" movie series.

Many in the audience collectively gasped and burst into applause when he announced his decision.

Schwarzenegger shrugged off the prospect of negative campaigning by his opponents, saying, "I know they're going to throw everything at me, (that) I have no experience, (that) I'm a womanizer and a terrible guy. You all know that Gray Davis knows how to run a dirty campaign better than anyone but he doesn't know how to run a state. I will promise you when I go up to Sacramento, I will pump Sacramento up."

He added that California's politicians are "failing the people, and the man who is failing the people more than anyone is Gray Davis. He is failing them terribly, and this is why he needs to be recalled, and this is why I'm going to run for governor.

In an impromptu news conference with reporters backstage of the Leno show after his appearance, Schwarzenegger said, "I'm a Republican but I will run as a Californian to straighten out California... I have the energy, I have the intelligence and I have the know-how."

Mervin Field, who has been conducting polls in California since 1947, said that the decision clarifies a complicated political race.

"The structure of the battle is more clear-cut, you're going to have on one hand Schwarzenegger, a movie star who has got a political sense; he is going to make a run for it but it is going to be a tough battle."

"On the other hand Davis is the kind of guy that if it gets down to one candidate he has to run against, this is the kind of terrain that Davis has won on before... It's going to be a fairly bloody campaign."

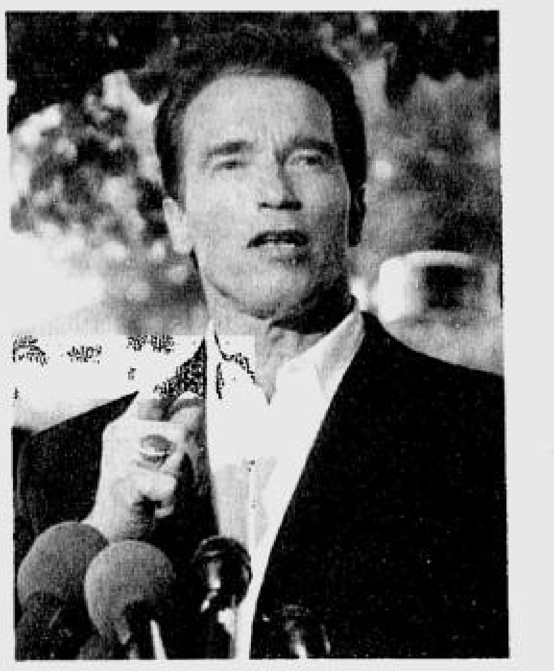
The Austrian-born former bodybuilder was the second celebrity of the day—columnist Arianna Huffington being the first—to announce a campaign against Davis who is in court to delay the Oct. 7 recall until next March.

The Democrat, unpopular because of his handling of the state economy, argues that outdated California voting machines will not be able to handle the scores of candidates vying to get on the two-part ballot.

Voters will be asked whether Davis, reelected to office only last November, should be recalled and then asked who should succeed him. More than 400 people have expressed interest in running although fewer than 10 have so far completed the forms which are due back on Saturday.

Earlier in the day, outspoken Athens-born Huffington said she would run as an independent for governor of California, competing against a potpourri of challengers that include porn publisher Larry Flynt, running as "a smut peddler who cares."

*Reuters*



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# Police chief links Jakarta, Bali blasts to Jemaah Islamiya

JAKARTA—Indonesia's police chief late Wednesday linked the deadly bombing of a Jakarta hotel to the Jemaah Islamiya (JI) terror network and warned of fresh attacks by the al-Qaida-connected group.

Gen. Dai Bachtiar said Tuesday's car bombing of the JW Marriott Hotel, which killed up to 14 people and injured 150, bore several similarities to the Bali attack last October which killed 202 people.

"From investigations we have done so far there are some common elements with the Bali bomb blast," Bachtiar told hoteliers and entertainment venue operators at a meeting called to advise them on upgrading security.

In each case, he said, a mixture of low and high explosives was used and the chassis number of the vehicle was erased. The number on the locally made Kijang van which exploded outside the Marriott had been recovered with forensic help.

In each case the vehicle was sold to someone who left no address with the vendor.

Bachtiar said police had prepared a sketch of a head found at the scene of the blast but did not confirm whether the hotel blast, like those in Bali, was a suicide bombing.

He said kerosene was found in the Kijang van outside the Marriott. "Their aim is to have a big explosion and create a big fire. With a big fire they hope to bury all evidence."

Imam Samudra and other detained Bali bomb suspects "do not want to admit they are JI but from the documents we know they are JI members," Bachtiar said.

The police chief said documents seized from a group of nine JI suspects arrested separately this month show "they will do terror activities again in a number of cities including Jakarta."

He said a list of targets had been recovered.

"From our investigations other members (still at large) have the capacity to launch terror attacks. This is because their friends are facing justice and are sure to get tough punishment. They want to free their friends and show they still exist."

The first verdict against a Bali suspect—a man called Amrozi—is due Thursday. He could face the death sentence if convicted.

National detective chief Erwin Mappaseng said separately the Marriott bomb was detonated by mobile phone—like at least one of the Bali blasts.

"This modus operandi is similar to the Bali bombing and the bombing at the house of the Philippine ambassador," Mappaseng said.

In Sydney Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said the Jakarta bombing had all the hallmarks of JI. Downer warned of possible new attacks as early as Thursday. *AFP*

## *Episcopal conservatives protest gay appointment*

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota—Disgruntled conservatives in the US Episcopal Church voted with their feet Wednesday, boycotting sessions and handing in their credentials in protest at the appointment of the church's first openly gay bishop.

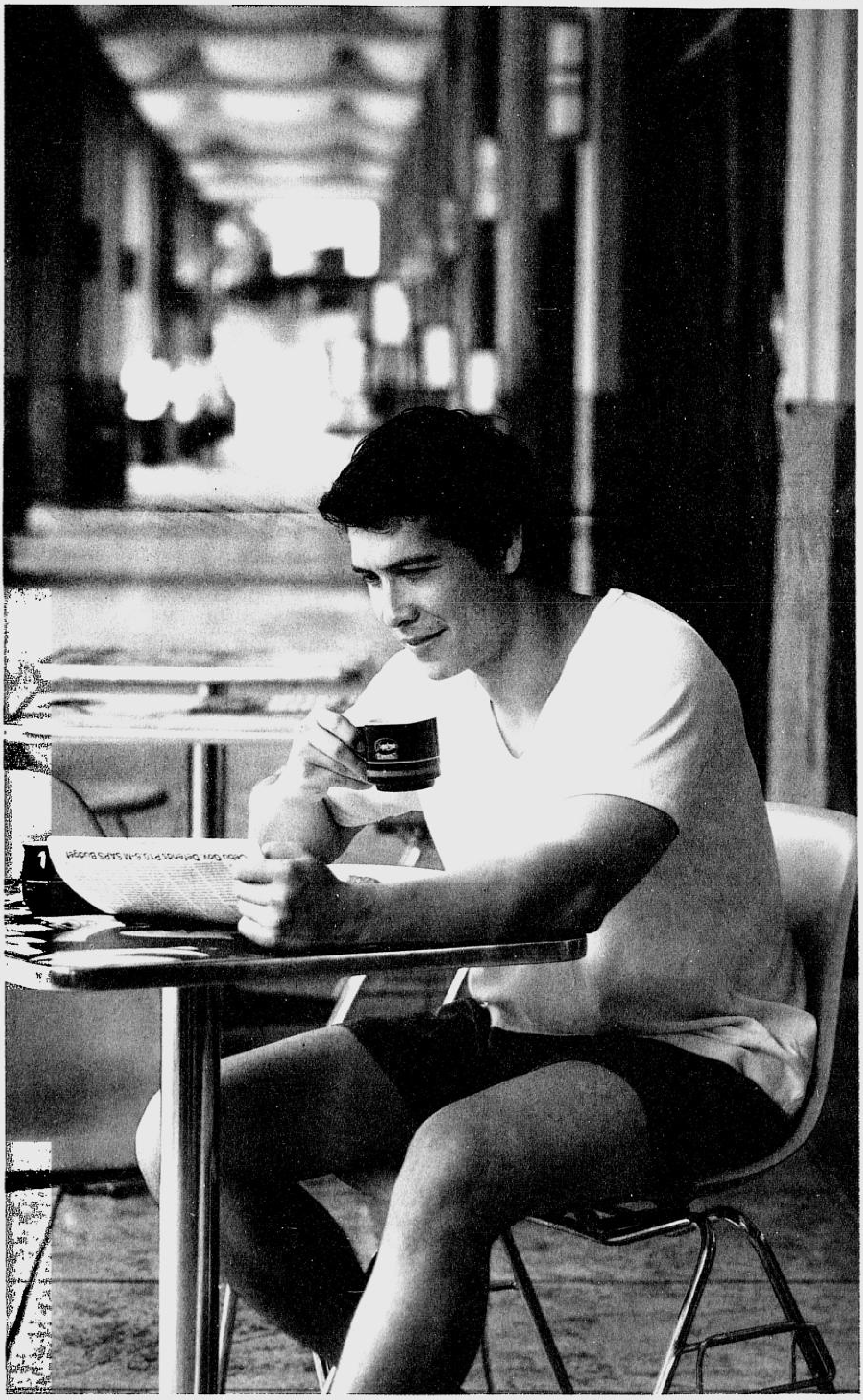
While the majority of the 106 bishops attending the church's general convention were in their seats as usual for Wednesday morning's session, a dozen of the more outspoken conservatives skipped church business to plot their next move.

Still wringing their hands over the confirmation of Gene Robinson as bishop of New Hampshire in a historic vote Tuesday, the malcontents huddled in a Lutheran church near the convention center hosting the Episcopal Church USA's 74th triennial convention.

Robert Duncan, bishop of Pittsburgh, and a leading critic of the decision to promote a practicing homosexual to the church's House of Bishops, said he and his colleagues were working on "educational materials," they plan to distribute to Episcopal parishes round the country for use in newsletters and Sunday bulletins.

Separately, delegates from Fort Worth, Texas and Quincy, Illinois also turned in their credentials and headed for home, according to officials.

The bishops—said to number 24—have attacked the confirmation of Robinson, 56, as a departure from the church's basic teachings which could cause a "realignment," of its provinces and dioceses. *AFP*



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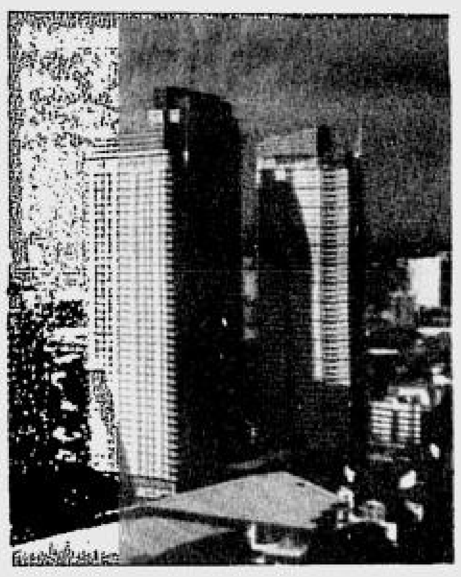

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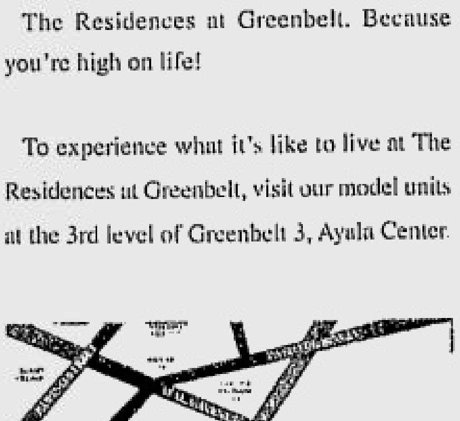

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## Probe of massive narra smuggling sought

**BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has ordered an investigation of the alleged involvement of its personnel in the illegal transport of narra lumber from the forests of Nueva Vizcaya.**

This came after members of an environment group, in a letter to Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun, revealed the alleged smuggling since March this year of 138,600 board feet of narra lumber, a volume enough to fill 23 18-wheel trailer trucks.

The letter detailed illegal shipments from March 1 to June 25, including the dates, names of owners, types and plate numbers of vehicles used, and the estimated volume of narra lumber.

"We ask you take proper action on the rampant anomalies involved in the smuggling of narra from the Casecnan area," said the "Mga Nagmamalasakit sa Kalikasan (People Concerned for the Environment)."

Casecnan area covers the five upland villages of Abaca and Talbec in Dupax del Sur town, and Lipuga, Pelaway and Cawayan in Alfonso Castañeda town, the forests of which were declared by the DENR as forest reserve of the Casecnan multipurpose irrigation and power project.

Gozun, through the DENR undersecretary for field operations, ordered the DENR directors of Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon to look into the unabated cutting of narra in the area, and investigate how a large volume of lumber slipped through the DENR checkpoints.

From their source in Pelaway, narra shipments passed through at least nine checkpoints along the 80-km stretch of the road up to the national highway in Barangay Puncan in Carranglan, Nueva Ecija.

Two of these checkpoints—at Talbec and at Puncan—were being manned by DENR men. The rest had been set up either by policemen, government soldiers or barangay officials.

Raw narra lumber were reportedly being sold by shippers from Nueva Ecija and Quirino to furniture makers in Metro Manila, Cavite, Pampanga and Pangasinan at P100 per board foot.

An average of 2,038 board feet or about P200,000 worth of narra had been smuggled out of the area during the last three months. The total worth of the shipments was estimated to be around P14 million.

Hinting bribery, the group said: "How much money that changed hands daily to allow the movement of narra lumber from the site is unknown."

"The buyers/transporters claimed that they have permits from (the) DENR to cut, slice and transport tops and branches but instead, natural stand of narra trees is cut, sliced and transported," the letter said. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

## Rape suspect slain on way to court

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—A rape suspect was shot and killed on Wednesday by two motorcycle-riding men while he was being brought by three jail guards to a hearing in an Angeles City court, police said.

The suspect, identified as Levi Azul, 19, of Sasmuan, Pampanga, might have been ordered executed by the relatives of his victim, according to Senior Supt. Jaime Restua, city police director.

The rape victim, a 20-year-old woman, lives in Angeles City.

Restua said the assassins shot Azul at close range after they drove past a Bureau of Jail Management and Penology bus in Barangay Pandan in the city at past 2 p.m.

Another detainee, identified as Jolly Serrano, 22, was hit by a stray bullet. He was taken to the Ospital Ning Angeles for treatment. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

**CHIP ON THE SHOULDER**

REUTERS

**A photographer appears to be standing on the shoulders of Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes as Reyes talks with Zamboanga City Mayor Ma. Clara Lobregat during a disaster drill in the city.**

## Samar soldiers rewarded for loyalty to Gloria

**By Joey A. Gabieta**
*PDI Visayas Bureau*

CATBALOGAN, Samar—It pays to be loyal to the government.

For standing by the government of President Macapagal-Arroyo during the July 27 Makati mutiny staged by the "Magdalo Group," Army Chief Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling promised to give P1.3 million worth of financial aid and additional military vehicles to the 8th Infantry Division based here.

Camiling made the announcement during the 15th anniversary celebration of the 8th ID, which is based in Camp Lukban in Barangay Maulong of this capital town.

The 8th ID, composed of three major brigades and nine battalions, is the main anti-insurgency fighting force in Eastern Visayas (Region 8) with a strength of more than 5,000 soldiers spread all over the three provinces of Samar Island. It is currently headed by Major Gen. Glenn Rabonza.

Camiling, in his speech during the program held at the camp's grandstand, said that the P1.3 million could be use to improve the camp's facilities, including its water system.

The 8th ID will also receive military vehicles. Camiling, however, did not say how many vehicles the 8th ID will get and when these will be delivered.

The Army chief said that the promised amount would be release as soon as it is approved by the Department of Budget and Management.

Camiling said he was glad that the more than 5,000 members of the 8th ID did not desert their posts but instead stood by the administration of President Macapagal during the Oakwood mutiny.

Philippine Society of General Surgeons, Inc.
"A subspecialty society of the Philippine College of Surgeons recognized by the Philippine Medical Association"

MESSAGE

Warmest greetings to the officers and members of the Philippine Society of General Surgeons as they hold their First Surgical Forum on August 9-11, 2003.

Hopefully with your theme "Currrent Practices of General Surgeons in the Philippines", you will be able to improve the general state of health of the Filipino people. It is only when you place a premium in your patients' health and well-being will your Society improve in the long run.

Congratulations!

JOSE T. SANCHEZ, M.D.
President
Philippine Medical Association

MESSAGE

The Philippine College of Surgeons needs all the help it can get in its effort to provide Continuing Surgical Education to all its Fellows. The College, therefore, appreciates the Surgical Forum of the Philippine Society of General Surgeons as an important avenue for Surgical Education.

Only on its fourth year of existence, it is truly remarkable that the PSGS is now able to provide a program that has the potential of becoming a yearly event. Such an accomplishment speaks highly of the commitment, dedication and hard work of its officers and members.

"Current Practices of General Surgeons in the Philippines" as the theme for the forum is both timely and practical allowing GS Fellows to be updated with their knowledge that will lead to better surgical care to our people.

Let me reiterate our sincere appreciation and congratulations to the Philippine Society of General Surgeons for a job well done.

FERNANDO L. LOPEZ, MD. FPCS
President
Philippine College of Surgeons

MESSAGE

The Philippine Society of Surgeons, Inc. cordially invites you to its Surgical Forum on August 9 to 11, 2003 at the EDSA Shangri-la Plaza Hotel. The forum will focus on the Current Practices of General Surgeons in the Philippines and hopes to furnish the general surgeons with information to help him in his surgical practice. Our colleagues from surgery, internal medicine and radiology shall comprise the expert panel. Through plenary sessions, lively interactive panel discussions, breakfast with the experts, video presentations and "how I do it" consultations, the forum promises to equip ourselves with knowledge to augment our care of our countrymen.

I look forward to welcoming you all on the three days of August 2003. Be part of a milestone and hopefully, a tradition of our Society.

JESUS V. VALENCIA, MD, FPSGS, FPCS
President
Philippine Society of General Surgeons

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**BUTUAN FEAST**

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A teener poses in a Manobo dress during rites in observance of the founding anniversary of Butuan City.

### 'GOOD RECEPTION'

# Danding edging closer to 2004 race

BAGUIO CITY—Businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. said he was more willing now to join the presidential race, saying that his reception in his provincial sorties was more than what he had expected.

"The reception I've had so far was much better than in 1992," Cojuangco, referring to his failed presidential bid, said here on Tuesday.

He, however, said he would only run for president if the opposition would unite. "*Dapat isa lang* (There should only be one opposition candidate)," Cojuangco said.

"If we are not united, we are easily demolished. If somebody among us wants to run, he loses his case or something else happens to him," he said.

Cojuangco's "Danding for Unity" streamers and posters were displayed all over the city during his visit. Inside the Baguio Convention Center, where more than 2,000 residents and officials gathered to see him, streamers with the words "Run, Cojuangco, Run" were displayed.

Although he promised that he would not criticize anyone, Cojuangco hinted at President Macapagal-Arroyo's burden of keeping the political "rainbow coalition" for the government's inability to act immediately.

"We need somebody who can decide right away on issues," he said in Filipino. "We don't need a government that fails to directly address our concerns."

He said should he decide to run for president, he would not withdraw from the race even if Ms Macapagal decides to join the race.

"As long as you are decided, you will fight anyhow," he said.

Former Sen. Ernesto Maceda, who was with Cojuangco's party, urged the crowd to cheer for Cojuangco.

"*Para kay* Danding, game *ka na ba*?" he shouted.

"I've been in this game for a long time that the opposition realizes that they have to unite and field one candidate. And the best way to assure that is if Gloria is running, we'll be united," Maceda said.

Cojuangco met with political supporters from the Nationalist People's Coalition, including five governors, seven congressmen and at least 20 mayors.

During the open forum, Cojuangco denied that he was among the financiers of the July 27 Makati mutiny. "I have nothing to do with the mutiny. All mutinies are bad for the economy," he said. *Frank Cimatu, Desiree Caluza and Gia Damaso-Dumo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, and Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

# Island-barangay in Roxas gets water supply finally

ROXAS CITY—The residents of the lone island-barangay of this city finally realized their dream to have a water supply system through a P3-million water project paid for by the Japanese government.

Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Kojiro Takano graced the inauguration and blessing of the water system for the lone island Barangay of Olotayan on Monday.

The project is a grant from the Japanese government to the Metro Roxas Water District (MRWD) worth $76,655 (about P3.8-million) under Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA).

During a short program held before the blessing of the power barge and reservoir in Barangay Culasi, Takano said the Japanese government has been concerned about water systems in the Philippines.

He said Japan has so far extended financial support to 20 water system projects in the Philippines but he considered the Olotayan project unique because they had to build reservoirs for the island-barangay.

Carmen Andrade, chair of the MRWD, said she approached the Japanese Embassy last year and asked the office how it can be of help in solving the water woes of the residents of Barangay Olotayan.

For years, island residents had to buy potable water from the mainland's residents at P10 per five-gallon container.

Under the current system, the MRWD's water is transported by a barge and stored in four concrete reservoirs built each in Sitios Capaculan, Looc, Sawang and Puting Balas. The island residents have to pay only P3 per container.

The reservoirs have a combined capacity of 55 cubic meters, which is more than enough to meet the consumption needs of 185 households or about 900 residents.

Capiz Rep. Rodriguez Dadivas of the first district commended the management and staff of the MRWD for a job well done and for building the project in Roxas City.

Gov. Vicente Bermejo said that the project is a dream come true for the people of Olotayan.

Mayor Antonio del Rosario expressed his thanks to the ambassador. He said the people of Roxas City are also grateful for the opportunity given to them to have their own water supply. *Gerry Pagharion, PDI Visayas Bureau*

# Town police chief sacked for laxity

DAVAO CITY—A town police chief in Compostela Valley was sacked from his post for alleged laxity while the region was placed under double red alert.

Chief Supt. Isidro Lapeña, Southern Mindanao police chief, ordered the relief of Insp. Fulgencio Moreno, police director of Mabini, reportedly based on the recommendation of Senior Supt. Francisco Arquillano, the deputy regional director for operations.

Arquillano said he conducted a surprise inspection early Aug. 2 to find out how prepared were Mabini police station members.

To his dismay, only the radio operator, out of the 22 police personnel assigned to the police precinct, was present during the visit.

He said the radio operator, who was only wearing short pants, a pair of slippers and without a shirt on, only told him that his fellow police officers were deployed to the Mabini public market. *Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

# Paete martyr honored after 58 years

A NATIVE of Paete, Laguna was honored as a martyr in his hometown on June 14, about 58 years after his death.

Eliseo Madrinan Quesada, according to a statement from the Paete mayor's office, was the youngest of 14 Paete martyrs who were abducted by the Huks in 1945.

His remains were found in March 1945 in the Sierra Madre mountains.

His widow was left to care alone for their two daughters who are now based in the United States.

The two daughters, now Dr. Menchee Quesada Fulgado and Nora Quesada Catiis, wrote to Paete mayor Elmosie Afurong to offer to donate to the town pieces of property that they inherited from their late father.

Afurong accepted the offer and said the piece of property will be used as the site of the proposed Poten and Eliseo Quesada Memorial National High School, the first ever public high school in the town.

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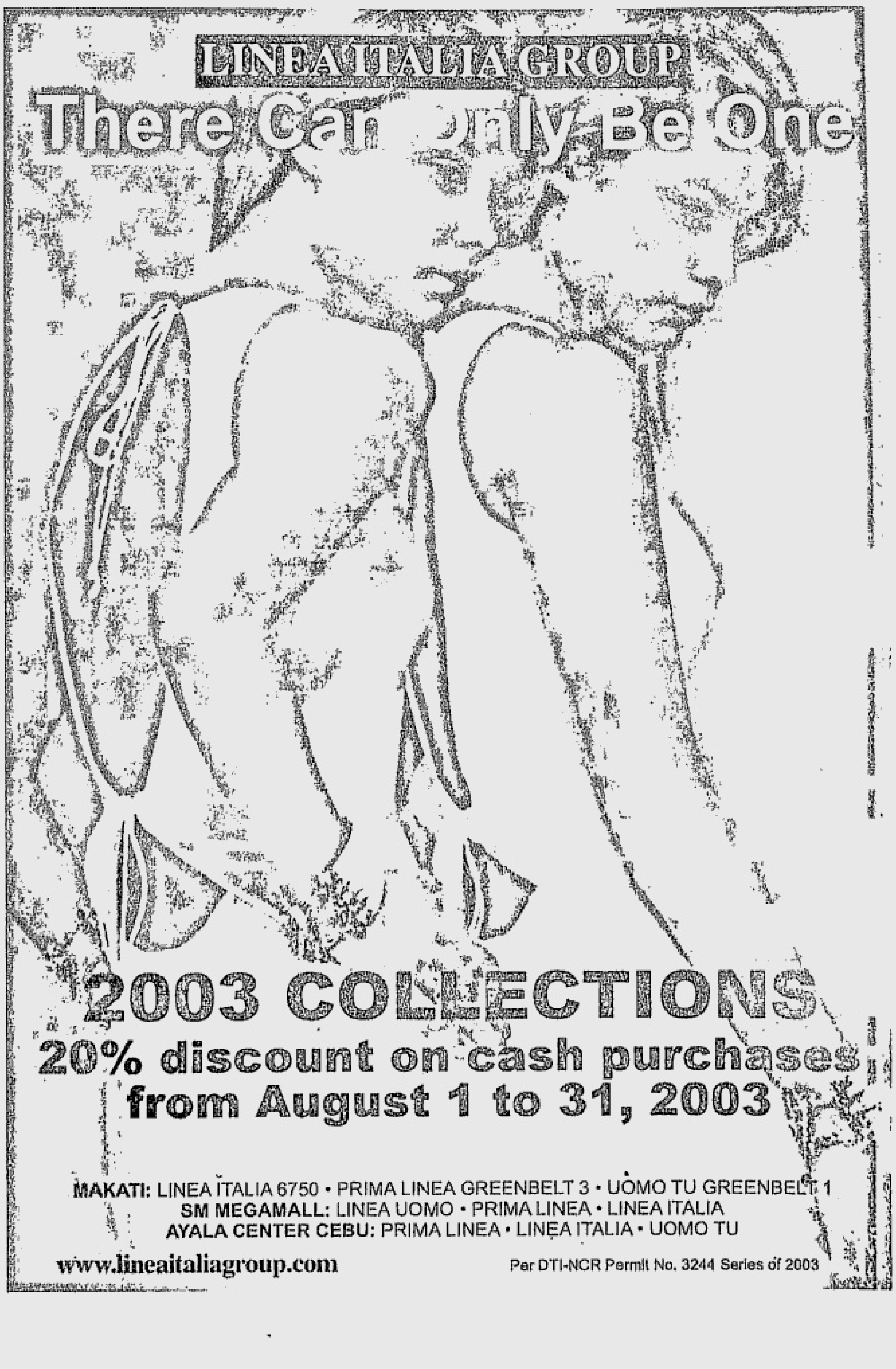
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# FVR tells GMA: Why make me the scapegoat?

From page A1

pore for a number of speaking engagements.

But in a strongly worded statement that was released by the Palace itself, Ramos asked: "“Literally, there were no coup attempts during my time. Why should I now be the scapegoat for the lapses in the military's chain of command?"

Ramos apparently felt alluded to when Ms Macapagal blamed the failure to implement the Davide Commission's recommendation to prosecute soldiers involved in the coup attempts of 1987 and 1989 for the continuing uprisings today.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye emphasized to reporters, however, that Ms Macapagal had not referred to a specific individual in her speech.

In the 1980s, Ramos, first as Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff and later as defense secretary, foiled nine military rebellions against then President Corazon Aquino that left hundreds dead.

## Amnesty defended

In 1995, three years after he was elected President, Ramos signed a peace settlement with military rebels that granted them blanket amnesty.

Ramos defended his decision to grant amnesty to the rebel soldiers during his administration as "the best course of action at that time to maintain the operability of the military chain of command and to pursue political stability."

Ramos said that while he could have opted to prosecute the leaders of the nine coup attempts under the Aquino administration, he gave priority to peace and unity to restore political stability and facilitate the implementation of structural reforms.

Ramos said this was the reason there were no coup attempts during his time.

He said prosecution was among the options Aquino considered against the coup leaders then, but the government decided the need to establish peace and unity was more important as it opened parallel peace talks with communist insurgents as well as Moro separatist rebels.

"By moving the insurgency, the military rebellion and even the secessionist movement from the arena of armed struggle to the negotiating table, we were able to implement our social reform agenda that was centered on economic empowerment," Ramos said.

## Still the one

In a press conference with reporters in Singapore, however, Ramos said that Ms Macapagal's peaceful resolution of the recent coup attempt gave her "the moral high ground" necessary to run for another term. He said she would be the strongest candidate in next May's presidential election.

"I have been one of those that have pushing her to go for it in 2004," Ramos said. "I myself feel that she is the strongest candidate ... for president."

Ms Macapagal has said she will not run, but Ramos said that "in the national interest she can change her mind."

Ramos said the President was also to be commended for setting up "two fact-finding commissions to look into the gripes of the soldiers and the bigger problem of military adventurism."

"She now has gained the moral high ground so she can push for her candidacy," he said. *With AFP, AP reports*

# DOJ on coup charges ...

From page A1

of criminal charges.

"That's not correct. I'm still special envoy to the Middle East," Cimatu said in a briefing in Malacañang where he sought to "clarify" the events that transpired during the July 27 negotiations.

## Long pause

Cimatu paused a long time before answering a question about why the mutineers were charged before civil courts.

"I think I'm not in a position to answer that. I was just part of the negotiations. I think the DOJ has some reasons for that and I leave that for them to explain," Cimatu said.

Asked if he pointed out to military officials that there was no agreement on the filing of civil cases, Cimatu said: "Well, they are very much aware that we are talking in military parlance and we are talking in (a) military environment, we talked about the Articles of War and I would believe that they know the meaning of the Articles of War because (it) is a set of methods, (a) mode of implementing military justice system."

"As I was saying, I don't know exactly yet the (civil cases) ... but I would like to see the military justice system be allowed to work as (this is) what we have agreed upon," Cimatu said.

He said he was "morally mandated to see to it that our agreement is being followed and this is what I would like to assure not only (the mutineers) but the Filipino people."

## More conspirators

A ranking official of the Department of Interior and Local Government said the authorities plan to prosecute more civilian conspirators of the failed coup, even as the President reiterated yesterday that she would push for the maximum penalty for the rebel soldiers.

The DILG was to lodge a rebellion complaint before state prosecutors late yesterday against some civilians "who organized the people who are supposed to have gone to the coup site," Undersecretary Agnes Devanadera said on ABS-CBN television.

Two civilian conspirators were identified as Cora Lozano and Alex Benasing. *(Story in Metro, Page A20.)*

"These are names that have cropped up even before," Devanadera said.

The military's inspector-general on Wednesday recommended separate court-martial proceedings against 45 military officers involved in the siege. The soldiers face life in prison if convicted in either the civilian or military courts.

President Macapagal-Arroyo said she was for "total justice based on due process" as officials said dozens more rebel soldiers and civilian conspirators involved in the plot would be prosecuted.

The director of the National Bureau of Investigation, Reynaldo Wycoco, said 38 more soldiers would be charged with rebellion in civilian courts, in addition to 321 colleagues earlier indicted.

"Apparently when they (military authorities) conducted a head count and processing of the soldiers, there were 38 others who were missed out," Wycoco said on ABS-CBN television.

But another NBI official, who requested anonymity, said the filing of coup d' etat charges against an additional 38 soldiers will have to be deferred because there was yet no evidence against them.

"We cannot amend the complaint if we have no evidence against (the new batch of soldiers,)" said the source.

## Search warrant

Another NBI source, also requesting anonymity, said operatives of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group wanted to raid the house of top Estrada aide Ramon "Eki" Cardenas even without a search warrant. The source was part of the party that searched Cardenas' Makati house the day after the mutiny.

According to the source, several NBI operatives were still trying to secure the search warrant from Judge Felix Marella of the Makati Regional Trial Court to search the former deputy executive secretary's residence when the CIDG men came and told the NBI men they wanted to go inside the house.

But the NBI operatives prevailed upon them to wait for the warrant since it was already being applied for.

"We told (the CIDG men) to wait for a little while because we might be able to get a search warrant," the source said. "The NBI men were already surrounding the house but we couldn't go in because we didn't have a warrant." *With reports from Leila Salaverria, TJ Burgonio; AFP*

### *Main agreements*

AMBASSADOR Roy Cimatu summarized the main agreements. "Number one, they (mutineers) recognized that the core group would take all the consequences of their acts. Number two, there was no decision (on) civil court proceedings ...Let me correct that. There was no discussion of civil court proceedings and therefore no agreement was reached on this matter," Cimatu said. The third agreement, he said, was that the "followers" would be treated with leniency under the Articles of War.

# Mutineers used hi-tech guns given by US

From page A1

The US military issued the Robar sniper rifles to members of the Light Reaction Company (LRC) while training them in antiterrorism at Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija, in the second quarter of 2001, he said.

The LRC, composed of 100 highly trained personnel, is often deployed with ground troops in special operations like tracking down the Abu Sayyaf bandits in the jungles of Basilan, Sulu and Zamboanga.

## Sniper rifles

Citing a military report, Lucero said that two days before the mutiny, 11 members of a sniper class, including two officers, slipped out of their training area in Fort Magsaysay, bringing with them three Robar sniper rifles and four Barrett rifles.

He declined to say if the snipers joined the mutineers at Oakwood.

The .50 cal. scoped Barrett sniper rifles (M82A1A) were purchased by the Marines from the United States five years ago, according to Maj. Gen. Emmanuel Teodosio, commandant of the Philippine Marines.

The 57-inch-long, 32.5-pound rifle has a maximum effective range (on equipment-sized targets) of 1,800 meters. It is equipped with bipod, muzzle brake, carrying handle, metallic sights and 10-round box magazine.

## $6,000 each

The Barrett rifle is designed to provide commanders the option of employing snipers with an anti-materiel weapon to augment the anti-personnel M40A1 7.62mm weapon, according to documents accessed from globalsecurity.org.

A unit replacement costs $6,000.

"There were no equipment used other than the organic equipment," Teodosio said in a phone interview, referring to the Barrett rifles. "All have been accounted for."

By official accounts, 98 Marines, including 22 officers, out of the 326 soldiers took part in the failed power grab.

Another flashy firearm, Steyr AUG or its modified version, F88, was seen being lugged by one of the mutiny leaders, Army Scout Ranger Capt. Milo Maestrecampo, while berating the unruly media at Oakwood.

The F88, the main assault rifle of the Australian Forces, can fire at least 650 rounds per minute. It weighs 3.8 kg and is 790-mm long.

"Bull-pup configured, the F88 can be equipped with a variety of options such as bayonets, night shifts, laser sights, and even a left-hand fit kit. Though seen as less robust when compared to other rifles, the F88 is a capable performer in the assault rifle market," according to documents accessed from the Internet.

A unit is priced at $1,250.

Col. Danilo Lim, commander of the 1st Scout Rangers Regiment based in San Miguel, Bulacan, said that Steyr rifles were issued to some Scout Ranger units as well as other units of the Army.

## Assault rifles

"Apparently, some Rangers were more comfortable with Steyr rifles," he said in a phone interview.

Other firearms used by the rebels were M-16A assault rifles, shotguns, grenade launchers, and M60 machine guns, which have a maximum range of 2.3 miles and can fire 100 rounds per minute (rapid).

An M60 machine gun and its modified version, M60E3, cost at least $6,000.

Except for the signature-brand backpacks (black and gray), and the hand-held radios and other communication gadgets, all the equipment seized from the rebels came from their mother units, according to officials.

"The sophisticated sniper rifles came from the Special Forces Command but the communication equipment were not standard military issue," Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia, AFP vice chief of staff, said.

"They could not have bought them as our lieutenants and captains could not afford them out of their own resources ... That is why we are looking at the involvement of some other people, outside of the military," Garcia said at a breakfast forum in the Manila Pavilion. *With a report from Martin P. Marfil*

# 'Smiling' Bali bomber guilty, gets death wish

From page A1

three-man panel of judges. "We hereby . . . hand down the death sentence on Amrozi."

After the verdict was read, Amrozi took off his Islamic skull cap, raised his arms and gave his lawyers the thumbs-up sign. Hundreds of people, including survivors of the bombings, cheered when the judge read the sentence.

As he was led out of the courtroom, Amrozi smiled broadly at Australian survivors, some of whom shouted back angrily. Brad Phillips, who lost seven of his Australian football teammates in the Oct. 12, 2002 blasts in two nightspots that killed 88 Australians, screamed "Die Amrozi!"

## No remorse

Amrozi, a 41-year-old mechanic from the island of Java, has been called the "smiling bomber" because of his jocular manner and lack of remorse after his arrest last year. During a peer's trial, he grinned and yelled out "Bomb!" when asked about Tuesday's explosion in Jakarta.

The verdict came two days after another bomb exploded at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Jakarta, killing at least 10 people and wounding nearly 150. Both attacks have been linked to Jemaah Islamiyah, a shadowy Southeast Asian terrorist group linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida.

Amrozi's was the first of at least three dozen cases to come to trial. Three other defendants are currently facing the court in Denpasar, the capital of Bali island. At least 30 other suspects, apprehended after a massive manhunt, are expected to face justice in coming months.

Most of Bali's 3 million people are Hindu, unlike the rest of Indonesia's 207 million people who are predominantly Muslim. Several of the alleged bombers said they picked the venue to kill as many Westerners as possible in order to avenge the treatment of fellow Muslims in other parts of the world.

## Bali rejoices

"The Balinese people will be rejoicing today," said Julia Ika Setiani, a university student who attended the trial. "My family and my friends have suffered because of this grisly bombing."

The judge said Amrozi had seven days to appeal his sentence. Defense lawyer Wirawan Adnan said he would file an appeal despite Amrozi's wishes "because we believe that capital punishment is an act of revenge."

"Actually, our client did not want to file an appeal, he wants this all to end," Adnan told reporters.

Security was tight around the courtroom, which was ringed with about 300 policemen with sidearms and 250 local guards with traditional daggers. Cars and motorbikes were banned from the area.

Maj. Gen. Made Pastika, who led the Bali investigation, told reporters Thursday that only six suspects in the Bali attacks remained on the loose. These include Riduan Isamuddin, also known as Hambali. He is believed to be Jemaah Islamiyah's operations chief and Osama bin Laden's point man in Southeast Asia.

Pastika said there were obvious similarities between the attacks in Bali and Jakarta, including the fact that a mobile phone was used to detonate a car bomb and that the types of explosives were similar. In both cases, soft targets frequented by foreigners were attacked and appeared aimed at causing maximum casualties.

Prosecutors said that while Amrozi did not take part in the actual attack, he purchased a van and explosives used in the car bomb that flattened the crowded Sari Club and nearby Paddy's Bar.

Police say he signed a confession. But during his trial Amrozi said he had been forced to sign it.

But Amrozi's brother, Ali Imron, confirmed in his testimony that Amrozi had taken part in plotting sessions and had purchased the vehicle.

Prosecutors alleged the Bali strike was part of a campaign by Jemaah Islamiyah to set up a fundamentalist Islamic state in Southeast Asia. Scores of other alleged members have been arrested in the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia and Malaysia.

"I want to punch Amrozi in the face," said Niluh Pasek, a noodle vendor just outside the courthouse, before the trial began. "The Bali bomb has caused nothing but misery for the people here."

## Allahu Akbar!

"Allahu Akbar!" (God is great!), Amrozi shouted six times at the start of the court session as he took the defendant's chair facing the five judges in red and black robes.

During the trial, Amrozi expressed remorse for the deaths of Indonesians but satisfaction at the death of Westerners in what he called "dens of vices." "Bule" (white) tourists are a threat to Indonesia's future and violence is the only language they understand," he said.

In handing down the verdict, however, Judge Karna said the notion of "jihad" (holy war or struggle) "is often misinterpreted by people with a narrow mindset. Jihad holds a high meaning in Islam . . . a religion that teaches love, peace, charity and forgiveness."

"The action of the defendant can be classified as cruel and inhuman," Karna said, citing verses from the Koran to prove his point.

## Boost to Indon image

Indonesia's government, accused of being soft on terrorists before the Bali blasts, has been eager to show the world that it is committed to bringing the Bali bombers to justice. If the Amrozi verdict is followed by similar convictions for other alleged bombers, Indonesia's notoriously inefficient judicial system could get a much needed boost in its efforts to confront Islamic extremism.

Indonesia's legal process allows for an unlimited amount of time for a death convict to keep his case in the courts on appeal. The nation's most recent cases of criminals on death row indicate Amrozi's lawyers can stretch the process out almost indefinitely.

The last time people were executed in Indonesia was in May 2001 when two murderers in East Nusa Tenggara province stood in front of the firing squad 12 years after being convicted. Two other people, a mother and son, are still on death row 15 years after being convicted of murdering a family in Surabaya, East Java.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard welcomed the guilty verdict and said his government, which is opposed to the death penalty, would not appeal to Indonesia to commute the sentence. *Reports from AP and AFP*

# 2 Guardians clear names

TWO officials of the Philippine Guardians Brotherhood Inc., who are facing coup d'etat charges before the DOJ, surfaced yesterday in Camp Aguinaldo to deny any links to the mutiny.

Retired Colonels Virgilio Briones and Romeo Lazo, vice president for Luzon and president for Rizal of the PGBI, respectively, showed up at the Department of National Defense before noon. They were presented to the media by Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes.

"We're here to clear our names," Briones said. "We're voluntarily surrendering ourselves to prove our innocence and show our support to the government."

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# PCGG wants SC to cite Bongbong for contempt

By Dona Pazzibugan

THE PRESIDENTIAL Commission on Good Government wants Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. cited for contempt of court for alleging that the Supreme Court pocketed part of the $683 million in Marcos Swiss assets.

Marcos had insisted the account stood at $750 million, and that the "missing" money could have been used to pay off the high court for deciding in favor of the government.

"It's $750 million. What happened to the $100 million? Why did the $100 million disappear?," Marcos was quoted as saying the other day.

"*Baka iyon ang ipambabayad nila.* That's P5 billion, *tamang-tama kung hati-hatiin nila,*" he was further quoted as saying.

In a phone interview from Zurich yesterday, PCGG Commissioner Ruben Carranza said Marcos was "ignorant" of the true amount of the assets.

## Ignorant

Carranza said 90 percent of the assets were in foreign currency deposits and 10 percent in bonds and securities invested abroad.

The assets are held in an escrow account in the Philippine National Bank, which quarterly submits a report to the PCGG.

As of June 2003, the PNB reported that the assets were valued at $681,984,323.83.

The Swiss justice ministry, however, said the assets were valued at $683 million. Malacañang had said the amount was around $708 million.

"He's (Marcos) completely ignorant of this fact yet he has the gall to accuse the Supreme Court of bribery," Carranza said.

Instead of asking where the "missing" Swiss assets are, the governor "should tell the people where the rest of the Marcos loot is," he said.

Carranza said he would ask the Office of the Solicitor General to file a motion before the Supreme Court to cite Marcos for contempt.

"He's accusing the Supreme Court of accepting bribe from the money that was awarded to the government. So this person is really inviting contempt," Carranza said.

The Supreme Court forfeited on July 15 the Marcos Swiss deposits in favor of the government. It said the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos and former first lady Imelda Marcos could not have legally acquired the assets with their legitimate income.

## Motion for reconsideration

The former first lady on Monday filed a motion for reconsideration, saying she and her children were not given due process.

The lawyers of Mrs. Marcos said the PCGG officials themselves were liable for contempt of court.

In a statement, lawyers Manuel and Michelle Lazaro said the PCGG issued misleading statements about the forfeiture case, which is still pending before the high court.

"The sub judice pronouncements of officials of the PCGG constitute unlawful interference with the pending proceedings before the Supreme Court, or in the language of the Rules of Court, 'an improper conduct tending directly to impede, obstruct or degrade the administration of justice' for which they could be held in contempt of court," Lazaro said.

# Don't touch Marcos loot, PCGG asks gov't

From page A1

At least not yet.

Out of "prudence," the government should wait until Congress passes a law setting aside a portion of the money for the victims of human rights violations during the Marcos regime, PCGG Commissioner Ruben Carranza said yesterday.

Swiss authorities on Wednesday agreed to turn over to the Philippine government the Swiss deposits of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos after the Philippine Supreme Court ruled that the funds were ill-gotten.

The government should also wait until the Supreme Court makes "final and executory" its July 15 decision forfeiting the Marcos loot in favor of government, according to Caranza.

"It's just a matter of prudence," he said in an interview from Zurich.

He said he had "expressed" this position to Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin before he left for Switzerland last week.

The Marcos assets have been in an escrow account of the Philippine National Bank since 1998 but invested abroad.

Carranza said he also discussed the matter with Agrarian Secretary Roberto Pagdanganan. Under the law, all ill-gotten wealth recovered by the PCGG from the Marcoses and their cronies will go to agrarian reform. That's why there are bills in Congress seeking to amend the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law so that part of the Marcos loot could be used to indemnify the rights victims.

## Commitment

"We've made our commitment to (the Swiss) government (to compensate the victims). We better do it," Carranza said

He said the PCGG would ask the PNB to transfer the money to the Philippine government. "The PNB can already transfer the money to the Philippine government even without waiting for the Supreme Court" to act on the motion for reconsideration of the Marcoses and the government's motion to make the July 15 decision final and executory.

A lawyer of a group of rights victims expressed apprehension that the money would be dissipated once it was transferred to the national treasury.

"We should make sure the money is not utilized for other purposes. And it's election year," said Rod Domingo, lawyer of Claimants 1081.

He urged Congress to carefully craft the compensation law. "It should not be haphazard just because the money is already there," he said.

## Trust fund

In the House of Representatives, the chair of the committee on civil, political and human rights called for the creation of a trust fund to administer the proposed P10 billion in compensation for the victims of human rights violations during the Marcos dictatorship.

"This trust fund guarantees that the funds due the victims will remain intact until Congress passes the compensation bill," Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales (Akbayan) said in a phone interview.

Rosales said the administration of the trust fund would be transferred from the executive branch to a board of claims, the creation of which is provided for in a proposed amendment to House Bill No. 4535.

"This board of claims will be a quasi-judicial body that will screen claimants and determine their respective compensation," Rosales said. "This will be an independent body."

Rosales, whose committee is sponsoring HB 4535, is hopeful that the bill will be approved by the House in the next few days.

The House resumed the period of interpellation on HB 4535 on Wednesday evening with Rep. Teodoro Locsin Jr. (PDP-Laban, Makati City) confronting Rosales regarding moves to expand the bill to cover victims of human rights violations under the administrations after Marcos.

Locsin argued that such move would allow "every Tom, Dick and Harry with a G-string" to come forward and claim compensation.

## Distinct class

He noted that even American courts had recognized the Marcos victims as a distinct class, therefore the compensation bill must be focused only on victims during the dictatorship.

He was referring to the Hawaii district court that earlier awarded $2 billion to claimants who sought compensation from the Marcos estate.

"It has weakened the bill," Locsin said of the proposals to make the bill a generic measure.

Rosales responded by saying that a number of congressmen had proposed the expansion of the bill's coverage in line with the principle of "universality" of human rights.

Rosales, however, stressed that what was on the floor was the original HB 4535 and that changes to the measure had yet to be either adopted or rejected during the period of amendments.

The $683-million Marcos money is roughly equivalent to P37 billion and President Macapagal-Arroyo earlier said that she wanted P8 billion to be set aside for human rights victims.

HB 4535 seeks to allocate $200 million or about P10 billion for the victims. Its counterpart measure, Senate Bill No. 1877, is currently pending at the Senate committee on human rights. The two bills seek to amend CARL.

Rosales said that after the period of amendments, the House bill would go through third or final reading. The Senate has to pass the counterpart measure before the two bills are reconciled.

"We're hoping to wrap up the measure at the House soon so that we can put the mechanism in place for the compensation of the victims," she said.

In Malacañang, Ms Macapagal said: "I will return to the people what belongs to them."

Ms Macapagal said the money recovered from the Marcoses would be used for the "continuing quest for social justice."

"The President is disposed to having a part of this money allocated for the compensation of human rights victims as well as having the bulk of the money used for land reform beneficiaries," presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said. *With a report from Juliet Labog-Javellana*

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# Gordon

From page A1

posted yesterday in the Department of Tourism website, Gordon appealed to mayors nationwide to defer the crafting of their respective smoking ordinances until an inter-agency body had come up with the implementing rules and regulations of the recently enacted Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003 (or Republic Act No. 9211).

## Sales down

The statement comes in the wake of complaints from bar and restaurant owners, as well as those in the entertainment and service industries, that their sales had dropped because of the confusion brought about by the new law.

According to the DOT, a good number of tourists have been shying away from establishments that do not allow smoking anymore, even in designated areas.

The tourism industry will be greatly affected by an absolute ban on public smoking, considering that most of the country's visitors are smokers from China, Taiwan, Japan and South Korea, Gordon himself said.

Section 5 of RA 9211 says that smoking is absolutely prohibited in "public conveyances and public facilities, including airport and ship terminals and train and bus stations, restaurants and conference halls, except for separate smoking areas."

This means that smoking in restaurants and similar establishments is actually allowed, as long as there is a separate smoking area.

## Works both ways

Gordon expressed support for this provision in the law, saying he was aware of the health hazards posed by smoking.

"An appointed smoking area in public places works both ways for the smokers and non-smokers," he said. "It will provide a comfortable place for smokers while non-smokers will be guided in deciding whether to be in places where smoking is present."

"Thus," he added, "I am appealing to all the mayors to defer the crafting of their respective smoking ordinances and wait for the inter-agency body to come up with the rules and regulations on smoking."

Under RA 9211, the inter-agency committee has the "exclusive power and function" to administer and implement the law's provisions. The committee must promulgate the rules and regulations within six months from the date of publication of the law.

Earlier, travel and tour operators requested the Department of the Interior and Local Government to hold back local government units from implementing smoking ordinances pending the drafting of the rules and guidelines.

"The ordinance has resulted in less business to us," said the Network of Independent Travel Agencies and the National Association of Independent Travel Agencies in a statement.

"City governments are also being affected as it means less taxes and business opportunities," they added.

# Al-Ghozi pal killed in Lanao–Southcom

From page A1

Opik Lasal, had not been sighted.

"Efforts are being intensified to track down the two other fugitives," Lucero said.

Kyamko said the two were interrogated at the checkpoint for about three hours by Col. Roland Rodriguez, Task Force Tabak commander.

On their way to Upper Bangaan, where Al-Ghozi was reportedly hiding, Edris asked for permission to relieve himself, Kyamko said.

The suspects, however, allegedly grabbed the firearms of their guards. A shootout ensued, resulting in the death of the two, he said.

Kyamko said he believed Al-Ghozi could be in the area and local Islamic militants may be trying to help him escape.

"I believe we are near," he said.

Edris, fellow Abu Sayyaf gang member Omar Lasal and Al-Ghozi escaped from what was supposedly a highly secure detention center inside Camp Crame, the main headquarters of the Philippine National Police, in Quezon City last month.

Their escape embarrassed President Macapagal-Arroyo since it came on a day Australian Prime Minister John Howard was visiting Manila to boost anti-terror cooperation.

Al-Ghozi was serving a 17-year jail term for explosives possession. He had earlier admitted to plotting bomb attacks against Western targets in Singapore and led Philippine police to an explosives cache hidden in Mindanao.

*With a report from TJ Burgonio*

# Corpus . . .

From page A1

they were forced to act prematurely even though the troops that would have been used for the coup had yet to arrive in Manila," Corpus, the former chief of the Intelligence Service of the AFP, said on ANC television.

"Had the plot not been discovered a week early, because their original target was Aug. 2—if there was complete failure of intelligence—it is likely this government would have fallen," Corpus said.

Corpus quit his post shortly after the mutiny to calm what he described as continuing restiveness in the military ranks. The rebels had urged Macapagal to sack Corpus, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, and Philippine National Police chief Hermogenes Ebdane.

## Extent of recruitment

"The government and the Armed Forces must not relax their guard. They have to account for all those involved," Corpus said.

"We are aware of the extent of their recruitment," he said, but refused to give figures owing to security reasons.

The government has filed a rebellion complaint against opposition Sen. Gregorio Honasan, a former coup plotter who was granted presidential amnesty in 1995. The politician denies the charge but has gone into hiding.

"Honasan was not the only one. There were many others implicated there," Corpus said without revealing names.

"We have an idea of who is the mastermind," he added.

Corpus said the plot was dangerous because the leaders were able to exploit the genuine grievances of the young officers who led the Makati siege.

AFP

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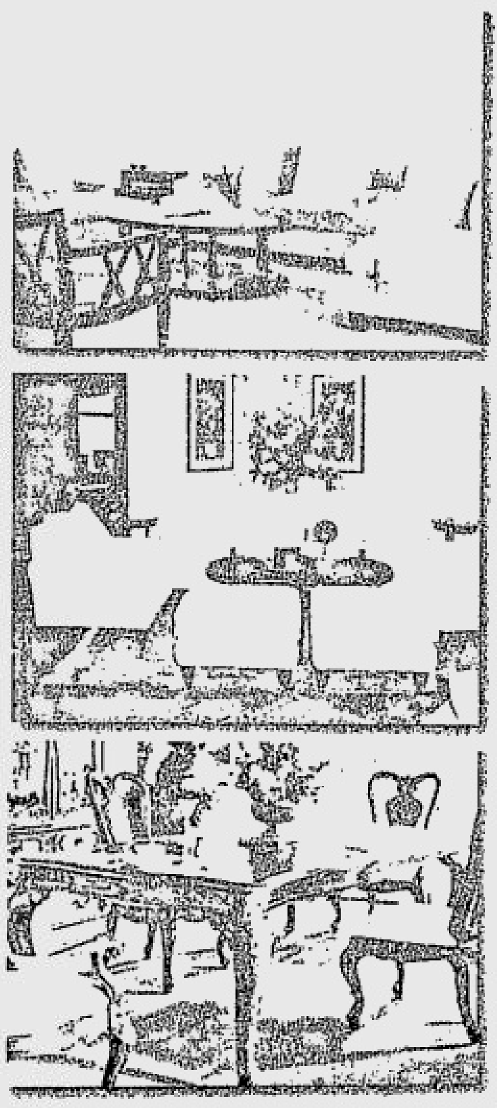

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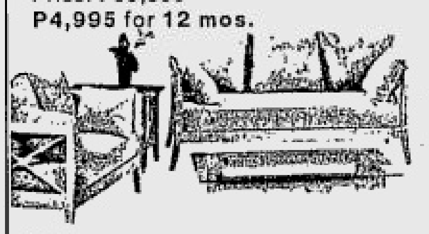

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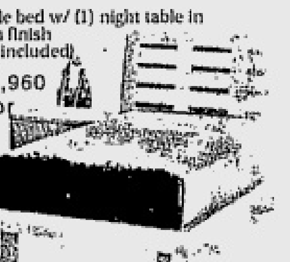

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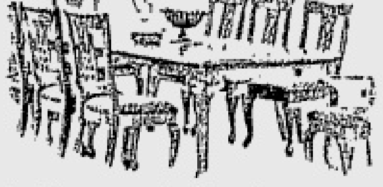

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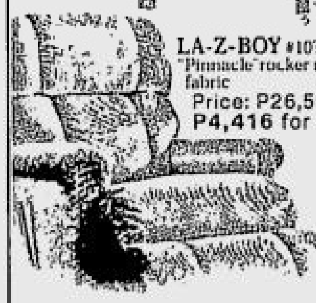

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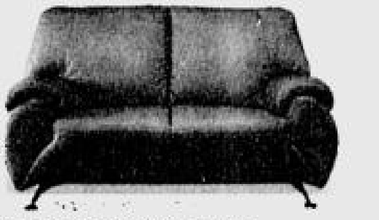

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| LA NOUVA #248 "Lucent" genuine leather sofa | P 49,980 | 12 mos. | P 4,165 |
| LA-Z-BOY 10T-505 "Rialto" rocker recliner, fabric | P 26,500 | 6 mos. | P 4,416 |
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*Editor* **Abelardo S. Ulanday**

# Palace acts to thwart cross-border terror threat

**By Gil Cabacungan and Margaux Ortiz**

RECOVERING from the shock of the Aug. 5 bombing of a premier hotel in Indonesia's capital, Malacañang yesterday ordered intelligence officials to step up their information-gathering activities to prevent possible "sympathetic" attacks in the country.

"Terror does not knock before it strikes," President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said when she convened a meeting of top security officials at the Palace. "This event could have happened anytime, anywhere in the region."

Ms Macapagal also cited the need to share intelligence information with neighboring countries.

"(The) hunt for terrorists must involve all communities and territories across borders," she said.

Roilo Golez, national security adviser, yesterday said during a Palace briefing that while the government's top security team does not see any specific threat, the President was "not taking anything for granted."

During yesterday's Command Conference on Countering Terrorism, the President also ordered tighter security in potent targets such as hotels, embassies and commercial centers, particularly in Makati City, where rogue military men pulled off a 20-hour mutiny on July 27.

Golez said the government's top security officials are now studying the Jakarta car bombing, where 14 people were reportedly killed, and the modus operandi of the Jemaah Islamiyah which claimed responsibility.

National police chief Director General Hermogenes Ebdane has set up a three-tiered defense system to protect commercial areas and improve post-blast and crime scene

PALACE/ A21

**POLICE officers participating in a drill in Makati City may be hoping for the best, but they also have to be prepared for the worst.** AP

# 2 rapped for inciting slum folk to aid rebels

**By Leila Salaverria**

TWO PERSONS yesterday were charged with rebellion for recruiting members of their community to aid rebel soldiers holed up in Makati City on July 27.

The Western Police District yesterday filed charges against Cora Lozano, of San Miguel, Manila, and Alex Benasing, of Baseco Compound, Port Area, Manila, for violating Article 135 of the Revised Penal Code (rebellion, insurrection or coup d'état).

In the information complaints filed by Chief Insp. Arturo Paglinawan, the suspects mobilized their neighbors to go to the Oakwood Premier Hotel in Makati on July 27 in exchange for a fee.

The recruits were supposed to "support and shield" the mutineers, Paglinawan said.

Lozano allegedly recruited around 40 people—most of whom were tagged as "squatters and drug users"—and promised them P50 if they would go to Oakwood.

Benasing was able to recruit five jeepney loads of his neighbors at the Baseco Compound. He paid P5,000 for every jeepney he rented.

Police said the actions of the suspects "clearly manifested (their) intention to support, abet, or aid in undertaking a coup d' état."

Lozano and Benasing are the second and third civilians to be charged for the July 27 mutiny. The first was Ramon Cardenas, former aide of deposed President Joseph Estrada.

# PLEB steps up processing of cases vs cops

**By Tarra Quismundo**

MANILA'S Finest ought to watch their backs.

The People's Law Enforcement Board (PLEB), a quasi-judicial body which handles administrative cases filed against police officers, have tripled the time it takes to process cases.

"We registered a 300-percent improvement in the disposition of cases, which means the processing of cases, from filing to resolution, is faster," said PLEB Chief Legal Officer Francesca Manzano. Any citizen who feels he or she has been violated by a police officer can file a complaint before the board.

PLEB has the power to dismiss a policeman from service. Cases of grave misconduct, abuse of authority, indiscriminate firing, guntoting, and physical injuries can lead to the dismissal of an officer, suspension ranging from 60 to 90 days, or demotion of rank.

PO2 Michael Buenaventura was among the law enforcers who got a feel of PLEB's power. Buenaventura was dismissed from service last March for shooting a colleague, Fernando Balaccua, on July 28, 1997.

In August 2000, Balaccua charged Buenaventura with grave misconduct.

According to the PLEB report, Ester Palma asked Balaccua to arrest a certain Bopak for allegedly shooting Palma's husband in 1997.

Balaccua, with Buenaventura and another officer, set trap for the suspect. But during the operation, Buenaventura shot Balaccua.

A witness convinced the board of the policeman's crime. The PLEB however did not say why Buenaventura shot his fellow police officer.

Manzano, along with the other PLEB staff, feels that the improvement is a direct result of the appointment of Teresita Ang-See as the board's executive chair in November 2002.

"We work faster and harder now," Manzano said.

She said that the board, which used to resolve 10 cases a month, now averages 35 solved cases over the same period.

From December 2002 to July this year, 245 cases have been resolved. There are 250 cases that have been submitted for decision as of the end of July.

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# 329 shops, stores padlocked

By Luige del Puerto

FOR failing to renew their licenses and permits, 329 business establishments were ordered padlocked by the Marikina City government.

In its report to Mayor Marides Lourdes Fernando, the city's Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) said most of these establishments were general merchandise stores, sari-sari stores, video game outlets, billiard halls, eateries and auto-repair shops.

Business establishments renew their licenses between Jan. 1 to 20 every year.

They usually pay less than P1,000, according to BPLO assistant chief Nora Santos.

Santos said her office sends at least two notices to an establishment that fails to renew its business permit.

If ignored, the city closes down the establishment.

Padlocked shops can resume business by renewing their licenses and paying the fines.

# 200 homes give way to QC road

By Tina Santos

A POLICE-BACKED demolition team yesterday dismantled 200 shanties along Zuzuarregui Road in Capitol Hills, Diliman, Quezon City, to connect Capitol Hills Drive and Katipunan Avenue to Commonwealth Avenue.

According to Annie Ubaldo, executive secretary of Celebrity Sports Plaza, Inc.., which owns the property, the demolition was a road-widening project of the city government.

The city government has reportedly allocated P8 million for the repair of the Zuzuarregui portion which was cleared of the squatters.

In an article published by the community newspaper "Village Voice," a copy of which was faxed to the INQUIRER by Ubaldo, Alliance of Quezon City Homeowners Association Inc. secretary Consuelo Sison said the displaced families were given relocation packages.

She said that the property to be used for relocation is in Rodriguez, Rizal and was donated by D.M. Consunji Inc.'s Riviera Land.

Informal settlers had lived in the area for 10 years.

**THE PAIN** of seeing their homes torn apart shows on the faces of a woman and two young residents of Zuzuarregui Street, Quezon City, which is being cleared to give way to a road-widening project of the city government.

JOAN BONDOC

# No lunch break

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

NAVOTAS residents can now transact business at their town hall even during lunchtime.

A new policy, which took effect last Wednesday, means continuous service by the city government from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Municipal hall employees are now taking lunch break by shifts. The first group takes a break from 11 a.m. to noon; the second group from noon to 1 p.m.

Navotas Mayor Toby Tiangco said the new program would benefit residents who could only do business at the town hall during lunchtime.

Tiangco also told the INQUIRER that the local government would not incur additional expenses due to the extended working hours.

# Witnesses set meet

JEHOVAH'S Witnesses will gather on Aug. 9 and 10 at their assembly hall on Quirino Highway, Barangay Kaligayahan, Novaliches, Quezon City.

Speakers will deliver talks on "Trust in Jehovah and Do Good." The program will begin with music at 8 a.m. and culminate in prayer at 4 p.m.

All those interested are invited. Entrance is free.

# Manila pro-GMA?

By Tarra Quismundo

MANY people are wondering who put up the streamers all over Manila prodding President Macapagal-Arroyo to run in the 2004 elections, but a street vendor has an idea.

Princess Catherine Dayo, 17, who sells banana cue and hotdogs at the corner of Taft and United Nations Avenue, saw who put them up.

"I saw a group around seven men around 1 p.m. last Monday putting up that streamer," Dayo said in Filipino, pointing to the streamer with the words "GMA, Sana ay ikaw na nga. Anak-Pawis."

The men, who looked like they were in their thirties, were all wearing plain white shirts and dark red pants.

She said she recognized one of the men who put up the streamers. "He used to be a metro aide here," said Dayo, who began selling at that street corner eight years ago.

She had also seen the man in one of the city's anti-illegal vending operations.

So, does he work for the city?

Manila Department of Public Services Administrative Division officer Luzciel Gabriel could not say if the man whom Dayo saw worked for the city or not.

"Our street sweepers have a shirt in a combination of red and white. Their pants are plain red," Gabriel said.

Meanwhile, militant group Anakpawis said they have nothing to do with the streamers that are asking Ms Macapagal-Arroyo to run for another term.

"Let us set the record straight. Our group is not supporting Ms. Macapagal's ambition to rule beyond 2004," said Anakpawis national president Rafael Mariano in a statement.

The group said the streamers were meant to confuse the public, adding that their organization was a vocal critic and staunch oppositionist" to the administration.

# ABS-CBN news anchor loses van to thieves

By Tina Santos

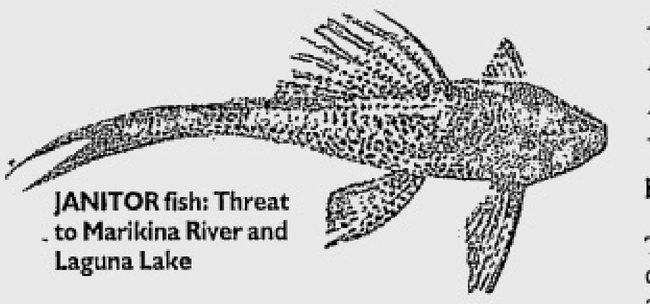
HE REPORTS the news, but in a dismal twist of fate, Cito Beltran, a news anchor on ABS-CBN, made the news.

Beltran's blue 1998 model Toyota Prado (XFB 898) was parked in front of the television station on Scout Esguerra St., Barangay West Triangle, Quezon City, when it was taken allegedly by three still unindentified men on Wednesday night.

Police said Beltran parked his vehicle in front of the TV station at around 9 p.m. to deliver the news on "Insider" which he hosts nightly with Karen Davila.

Beltran told police that when he came out of the station at around 11:50 p.m., he was aghast to find that the vehicle was no longer there.

Police said a witness claimed that prior to the incident, he saw three men wandering in the area. He also said he noticed that the car was moving but did not pay attention to it.



**JANITOR** fish: Threat to Marikina River and Laguna Lake

# *Lawmen outwit hostage taker*

By Luige del Puerto

THE POLICE stalled, played along and finally outwitted a man who took hostage a four-year-old girl inside a church in San Mateo, Rizal at noon yesterday.

According to the police, Rolando Ferrer, 33, who had not eaten and slept for the past three days, went amuck and stabbed a man in Barangay Guinayang.

After the incident, Ferrer grabbed a four-year-old girl and demanded a car.

He was given a Toyota Revo and was then driven to the San Mateo Parish Church.

Ferrer then demanded to be taken to Antipolo City. But the police said there was no one to take him there.

Exasperated, Ferrer retreated to a corner, where the police finally disarm him. The child sustained only minor bruises.

# Palace acts to thwart...

From page A20

investigation. The police also urged operators of the LRT and MRT to tighten security to prevent a repeat of the Dec. 30 bombing, attributed to fugitive JI member Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi.

The police have already started holding intense drills to foil the terrorist threat.

For an hour yesterday, motorists and bystanders thought the National Police Commission (Napolcom) building on Jupiter Street in Makati was under siege.

Police helicopters hovered in the air while Special Weapons and Tactics unit members were seen around the area.

Bomb explosions and gunshots were heard inside the building as mediamen were "informed" that 15 armed men had taken hostage Napolcom officials.

This was the scenario the police painted when they held the anti-terror drill to assess the readiness of police and emergency services in responding to threats.

Director Ricardo de Leon of the PNP's Police Community Relations said that the latest terrorist incident in Jakarta and the military mutiny in Makati served as lessons for government emergency managers.

# Pesky 'janitor' not welcome

By Alcuin Papa

THE JANITORS have come to clean and the people of Taguig and Marikina are not happy about it.

In fact, fish pen owners in Taguig are worried that these janitors—the fish variety—will kill their industry.

According to the Taguig Municipal Agricultural Office, fishermen in the town have been complaining of the rise in the population of janitor fish or suckermouth catfish *"Hypostomus plecostomus."*

The janitor fish are destroying fishing nets because of their sharp fins and are also known to damage nets used in fishponds.

Also, the janitor fish is gobbling up the algae in the lake leaving little or nothing for the more marketable and edible species said Emy Solis, head of the Taguig Municipal Agricultural Office.

She added that her office has advised fishermen to harvest the janitors and bury them. "Other fishermen who catch the fish throw them back into the lake," Solis lamented.

Solis also said the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) was still determining if the fish is suitable for human consumption.

The problem is also felt in Marikina City where residents are finding it hard to catch fish from the Marikina river.

When sought for comment, Marikina Park River Office administrative officer Marites Cirero could only sigh in disbelief.

She blames residents in other localities for making the river filthy, which allows the janitor fish to thrive.

The janitor fish, which can grow up to 32 centimeters, is a hardy species that originated from Brazil. It was introduced in the country in the 1990s.

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[illegible]

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SPORTS

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# Senate: Deport 'Fil-shams' now

## *Taulava, Ordonio, Seigle, Harp, Hatfield 'used fake papers'*

**By June Navarro and Michael Lim Ubac**

THE SENATE yesterday recommended summary deportation proceedings against five top players of the Philippine Basketball Association who it claimed used spurious documents to pass themselves off as half-Filipinos so they can play in the pro league.

The Senate committees on Games, Amusement and Sports chaired by Sen. Robert Barbers and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws chaired by Sen. Edgardo Angara declared that the Filipino ancestry of the so-called "Fil-foreign" players—Pauliasi "Asi" Taulava, Jonathan Ordonio, Andrew John Seigle, Davonn Harp and Rudolf Hatfield—cannot be established."

Barbers and Angara disclosed that the five players' roots could not also be supported by the annals of the civil registry, the Catholic Church or town and barangay records.

The joint committees, however, exempted Michael Alfio Pennisi, Dorian Alan Peña and Alex Vincent Crisano from the deportation proceedings to be conducted by the Bureau of Immigration.

Instead, Barbers said the joint committees had asked Immigration to "further investigate the following Fil-foreign players insofar as their claim for Philippine citizenship is concerned."

As for Immigration, it was found to "be too lax" in granting application for recognition of Philippine citizenship.

The joint committees asked the agency, along with the Justice department and the National Bureau of Investigation, to probe concerned Immigration officers involved in the citizenship scam.

The probe should also include the "agents and or managers and lawyers" of the Fil-foreign players for possible collusion in forging or falsifying the documents.

The Senate will convene in a plenary session on Monday, at the earliest, so that the 22 senators can scrutinize the committee's recommendation for final approval.

"But chances are, the recommendation would unlikely be reversed since almost all of the members of the committee acceded to it," said Xerxes Nitafan, secretary of the Senate Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports.

Except for Sen. Ramon Revilla and Sen. Francis Pangilinan, both reportedly out of the country, and Sen. Gregorio Honasan, who is indisposed, 14 senators who comprise the joint committee on games, amusement and sports and constitutional amendments'

SENATE/ A24

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■ Hewitt bows out; Agassi survives /A29

## SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Manguiat

**TENNIS:** Masters Montreal; 7:30 a.m. (r-4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.) and tomorrow at 1 a.m., Star Sports—See who survives the third round and the quarterfinals in Canada.

**GOLF:** The International; 5:30 p.m., 11 p.m. (r) and tomorrow at 4 a.m.; Star Sports—Catch the replay of the first round and the live coverage of the second round from Colorado.

**BILLIARDS:** Rack 'Em Up 2; 7 p.m.; ESPN—Django Bustamante is up for a challenge as he goes up against fellow Asian Chin Shun Yang.

**BASKETBALL:** WNBA—Monarchs vs Silver Stars; 8 a.m.; ESPN—Sacramento and San Antonio engage in a western shootout at the SBC Center.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

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# League should come up, promptly, with a cleansing act

By Recah Trinidad

COMMENTARY

PBA officials should not wait another day before carrying out the recommendation of the Senate committee that labored long and hard to get into the core of this criminal practice.

Okay, inventing one's ancestors could be a noble undertaking but only if you happen to be a writer badly wanting in a point of view.

The practice becomes truly unforgivable if you use fictitious relatives and grandparents in order to rake in the dollars and fool the basketball public.

Truth is the current PBA commissioner, already beset by other big problems, has just inherited this mess from self-styled pro league geniuses who worked to bring in Fil-Am players as a knee-jerk reaction to the unfounded threat supposedly posed by the defunct Metropolitan Basketball Association to the PBA.

The damage has already been done with the league, the trusting public and the sport of basketball ending up the big victims.

With all the chaos and lawlessness around, the PBA should waste no time and show, late as it is, that sports could yet be a saving grace.

The PBA should salvage the situation by coming up, promptly, with a cleansing act.

The PBA should also work to overhaul its format and free the league of future fraud and forgery which, in the case of these Fil-shams, have been perpetrated with the obvious connivance of shameless government functionaries.

# Senate: Deport five fake Filipinos

CLOCKWISE from top right: Davonn Harp, Andy Seigle, Rudy Hatfield, John Ordonio, Asi Taulava.

PDI PHOTO

From page A23

signed the recommendation.

PBA Commissioner Noli Eala, meanwhile, said he will take up the matter with the Board of Governors for appropriate action as soon as they receive the Senate report.

"It would be imprudent for the PBA at this time to make any statement on such serious issue without first studying the report and its implication," Eala said in a statement.

The Office of the Ombudsman and the NBI have been asked to investigate the local civil registrars concerned in the issuances of questionable certificates of birth. They were identified as Asuncion Mendoza, Quezon City assistant registrar; Yuri Del Valle Sr., San Jose, Northern Samar, municipal civil registrar; and Luz Austria, San Antonio, Nueva Ecija, civil registrar.

The recommendations were contained in a 12-page Committee Report No. 256 signed and approved by Angara, Barbers and 11 other senators.

The committee report will then be endorsed by Barbers and Angara to the plenary for adoption by the entire chamber.

The investigation into the citizenship of these players was authorized by Senate Resolutions No. 415, 426 and 480.

Barbers said the investigation focused on the propriety and process being followed by the PBA, Metropolitan Basketball Association and the Philippine Basketball League in hiring Fil-American basketball players.

It will also look into the practice of professional leagues in facilitating the influx of foreign players claiming Filipino heritage, thereby closing the path for young Filipino players to rise through the leagues, and the double standard of treatment, benefits and privileges accorded to the Fil-Ams as against homegrown basketball players.

In the course of the investigation, a total of 25 Fil-foreign players were summoned.

"The primary objective is to arrive at a remedial legislative measure consistent with the constitutional rules on citizenship," said Barbers.

The joint committees found out that Taulava submitted to authorities forged documents to prove that his alleged Filipino mother, Pauline Hernandez Mateaki, was born in Bobon, Samar.

But the report disclosed that nobody in San Jose (formerly Caraingan), Samar, knew Taulava's grandparents—Ana Hernandez and Felipe Mateaki.

"Search for entries in the local civil registrar offices concerned bearing the above names in the register of death for 1959 also resulted in the negative."

The report also cited a certification from the parish priest of Bobon, Samar, that it had no record of birth, death and marriage of Taulava's grandparents.

As for Ordonio, it was established that the documents submitted with Immigration contained false information.

His alleged Filipino relatives living in Balaoan, La Union even disowned him.

Town records also did not contain the name of Ordonio's grandfather, Mauro, who was allegedly born on Dec. 11, 1913. The municipal registrar attested that the ones listed in the town's record of births were spelled with ñ, or Ordoño.

The municipal civil registrar of Santa Lucia, Ilocos Sur also certified that it had no record of one Corazon M. Ordonio, Jonathan's mother, alleged to have been born on April 10, 1946.

Field investigation on the actual residence of Jonathan's parents also yielded negative results.

Seigle had argued that under the 1935 Consitution, he could elect Filipino citizenship because of his mother's Filipino ancestry.

But the young Seigle failed to do this when he turned 18. "It was only after eight years (or on Nov. 23, 1998) from the time he reached 18 that he elected Philippine citizenship," said the report.

The Department of Foreign Affairs had earlier cancelled his passport based on his failure to comply with the constitutional requisites to be rightfully accorded Philippine citizenship.

Harp, for his part, "simulated" the certified true copy of the certificate of live birth of his father, Manuel Arce Gonzales, to prove his Filipino ancestry.

"The certified true copy, in photocopy form, appears to have alterations on its face since the entries therein look to be superimposed."

The report also noted that the marriage of Harp's grandparents—Ernesto Prudencio Gonzalez and Natividad dela Cruz—could not be established.

The pattern of fraud and forgery continued in the case of Hatfield whose grandfather, Don. N. Valdez, was found to have never existed in the annals of local civil registrar and the Catholic Church.

Pennisi, Peña and Crisano submitted records of their parents' Filipino citizenship, but the authenticity of the documents revealed highly suspicious, and at times, conflicting circumstances.

# Nationals under the gun vs Alaska

GAMES TODAY (*Cuneta Astrodome*)
5 p.m.—Cebuana Lhuiller-RP vs Alaska
7:30 p.m.—Novi Sad vs Red Bull

By June Navarro

THE CEBUANA Lhuiller-RP Team wouldn't be surprised if the Alaska Aces beat them today in the Samsung-PBA Invitational Championship at the Cuneta Astrodome.

After all, the Nationals, composed of amateur players willing to sacrifice their interests for flag and country, are only in for the experience.

"But I hope we wouldn't be beaten by Alaska similar to the lost we absorbed against San Miguel Beer," said Cebuana Lhuiller-RP Team coach Aric Del Rosario.

| STANDINGS | W | L |
|---|---|---|
| Group A | | |
| Red Bull | 2 | 0 |
| Talk N Text | 2 | 0 |
| FedEx | 2 | 1 |
| Novi Sad | 0 | 2 |
| Yonsei | 0 | 3 |
| Group B | | |
| Alaska | 2 | 0 |
| San Miguel | 2 | 1 |
| Coca-Cola | 1 | 1 |
| RP Team | 1 | 1 |
| Jilin Yi Qi | 0 | 3 |

The Nationals were overwhelmed by the Beermen, 95-55, during their inaugurals encounter on June 27.

The Nationals, however, redeemed themselves against Magnolia-Jilin of China, 114-91, to tie the Coca-Cola Tigers at 1-1.

Del Rosario, who also calls the shots for the UST Tigers in the UAAP and was a former assistant coach in the Alaska fold, will pin his hopes on Gary David, Nelbert Omolon, Dennis Madrid, Celino Cruz, Emerson Oreta, Bernzon Franco and Marc Pingris.

Experience-wise, these guys still have a long way to go, a facet which Ali Peek, John Arigo, Don Allado, Rob Duat and rookies Mike Cortez and Brandon Cablay are expected to exploit.

"I know coach Tim (Cone), he will not humiliate me," said Del Rosario half-jokingly, expecting the Aces would play it easy against the Nationals preparing for the Vietnam Southeast Asian Games in December.

Del Rosario acted as deputy to Cone during Alaska's title run in the 90s, including the Aces' Grand Slam in 1996.

Cone and his Aces have won their first two games against Magnolia-Jilin of China and Coca-Cola in convincing fashion. Another victory in the 5 p.m. set will strengthen the Aces' bid for a semifinal berth in Group B.

Red Bull Barako seeks to close in on a semifinal seat when the Thunder tackle Lamoiyan-Novi Sad of Yugoslavia in the other game.

The Thunder (2-0) pulled off hard-earned victories against FedEx Express and Yonsei University of Korea as they share the lead with the Talk 'N Text Phone Pals in Group A.

The Yugos, however, have dropped their first two assignments against the Express and the Phone Pals, pushing them out of the semifinal round.

# *'Immigration will follow Senate wishes'*

WHATEVER recommendation the Senate Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports makes to the Bureau of Immigration is considered a done deal, a highly reliable source yesterday told the INQUIRER.

Political pressure, the source said, would drive immigration officials to adopt the committee's recommendation for summary deportation of five alleged fake Filipino-foreign cagers playing in the Philippine Basketball Association.

The committee has proposed to the BI that Asi Taulava of Talk 'N Text, Alaska's Jon Ordonio, Andy Seigle of Purefoods, Red Bull's Davonn Harp and Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola be striped of their citizenship and deported to their country of origin.

"The BI has no choice but to follow the recommendation of the Senate. Otherwise, immigration officials will have a difficult time lobbying for a larger budget next year," said the source, who requested anonymity.

Government agencies, including the BI, present their budget proposals every year before both Houses of Congress for approval.

After the Senate president signs the approval for the agency's budget, the proposal will then be forwarded to the Department of Budget and Management, which, in turn, will facilitate its release.

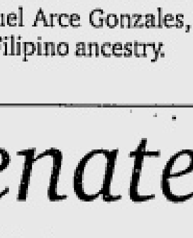
"That's besides the clout that the senators can wield the moment immigration officials turn down their suggestion."

"Using their influence, the senators could help remove the head of a particular agency like the BI in office," the source said.

*June Navarro*

# 'The Boss' key to Espinosa fight

**SPECTATOR**



*Al S. Mendoza*

ASI TAULAVA in the national team for the SEA Games?

Why not?

I see nothing wrong there. Taulava is a Filipino and therefore, he is qualified to represent the country in international tournaments. He's done that already. Didn't he play center for the Philippine quintet in the last Asian Games in Busan?

However, Taulava's stint in the national team will hinge largely on his status with Talk 'N Text, the proud winner of the PBA All Filipino crown. If TNT will play hero and become Mr. Patriot extraordinaire, then see Taulava suiting up for the Vietnam Games this December.

If and when TNT decides to release Taulava to the national team, can PBA Commissioner Eala block that?

I don't think so.

Taulava may be a PBA star and the loop needs him to help prop up the sagging image of the league. But in the end, it is TNT that has the final say on whether or not Taulava should be in the RP Team.

Not even the PBA board, whose babying tactics on Eala's stupendous mismanagement miscues has consistently put the league in dire straits, can do the blocking.

If there's one guy who can really block Taulava's move, it is Taulava himself. If he changes his mind, that should be it.

In the meantime, Taulava is having the time of his life. Fifteen minutes of fame as Andy Warhol put it?

What's being eagerly awaited now is the word from TNT's Manny V. Pangilinan, the team's enigmatic owner.

Your move, MVP.

***

Things are looking bright for Luisito Espinosa's challenge of the IBO world featherweight crown being held by South African Cassius Baloyi.

From an initial offer of $100,000 for Baloyi to come to the Philippines to defend his crown, the purse is now down to $85,000, thanks mainly to the unflinching efforts of Noel Rivera to have the match held in Manila. The San Francisco-based Rivera is now Espinosa's attorney-in-fact; he will co-promote the fight with Edgardo "Boy" Cantada.

Already, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza has shown interest in the fight and, if plans run true to form, our hardworking mayor will have the bout staged in front of the Luneta Grandstand at Rizal Park. I'm sure the mayor's son, Ali, will have an active hand once more should the match push through. It will be remembered that Ali (the mayor got his son's name from Muhammad Ali, who else?) played a key role in ensuring the success of Manny Pacquiao's fight at the Luneta only a while back. In all likelihood, Ali will once again be at the forefront of things when the fight is finally held here.

The fight plans took a major twist when Baloyi's camp sent three proposals that, to Rivera's mind, could be easily worked out. The three are 1) a clause for a rematch, 2) the fight should be shown on international TV, and 3) that Baloyi's camp should promote Espinosa's three title defenses should Espinosa succeed in dethroning the South African.

To me, the proposals are negotiable and should not be a hindrance to the staging of the fight here, which will give Espinosa the rare opportunity of becoming the first Filipino to win three world crowns in three weight categories.

A key factor in the fight is the entry of "The Boss," who is none other than Danding Cojuangco. Once The Boss gives the green light for San Miguel Beer to sponsor the fight, 99.99 percent of the fight plans are done away with.

Everybody knows the magical powers of The Boss, especially on matters of sports. To those not in the know, The Boss pioneered on the "godfather" style of corporate backing in sports, having been the country's No. 1 supporter of basketball not too long Ago. And, yes, in case you still don't know, boxing is closest to his heart. As a matter of fact, Espinosa is The Boss' wedding godson through his beauteous wife, Gretchen.

Need I say more?

***

FASTBREAK. Macy M. Pineda writes to say her babe, the 2003 Defense & Sporting Arms Show Part II, will be held Aug. 14-18 at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall B, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City. The free-to-the-public seminar will be conducted by Orlando Marquez, head of the PNSA-PSC grassroots level development program . . . It seems very obvious. A demolition job is being waged against acting Public Works Secretary Florante Soriquez, a dear friend of the Pangasinenses and a sports lover nonpareil. But like all disinformation campaigns in the past, this one against Soriquez, which is yet another evil design by people oozing with envy-fueled intrigues, will soon die a natural death. The truth is, Soriquez has been doing well and President Macapagal-Arroyo ought to be proud of him.

# Officials for SEAG may reach 160—POC

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE NUMBER of officials who will join the national athletes to the Vietnam Southeast Asian Games may reach 160 by the time the contingent leaves for the Dec. 5-13 games.

The SEAG Technical Commission has so far approved only 116 officials to accompany the athletes in Vietnam.

Sources in the Philippine Olympic Committee said a few more technical officials will be tapped to join the contingent, although their total number will not reach the 1-to-2 official-to-athletes ratio traditionally followed by the POC.

Slots will be given to armorers in archery, shooting and fencing; mechanics in cycling and boatmen in canoeing/kayak and traditional boat race. Officials of concerned national sports associations (NSAs) said the services of these people are invaluable to the country's campaign to surpass its 31-gold showing in the 2000 Kuala Lumpur SEAG.

Steve Hontiveros, chair of the 12-man SEAG Technical Commission that includes representatives from the Philippine Sports Commission, admitted that the list will be expanded.

"The members of the Technical Commission are exerting extra effort to make sure that we get the least possible number of officials," said Hontiveros.

Still, the POC said they will make sure everybody will have a role to play in the contingent as the Task Force discusses the chief of mission's staff as well as medical, secretariat and media personnel.

Hontiveros said POC president Celso Dayrit and chief of mission Julian Camacho (wushu) are set to fly to Vietnam to make clarifications regarding the complaints of some NSAs regarding technical requirements.

Among these NSAs is the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines, which has noted that the Vietnam organizers have yet to adjust its weight categories in accordance with world standards.

Boxing president Manny Lopez, also the secretary general of the Asian Boxing Federation, said he wants an immediate clarification because the organizers had sent him old weight categories.

Lopez said the problem came up because boxing is not popular in Vietnam.

CHAMPIONNAT DE NICE

# Paragua, Dableo among leaders

FILIPINO IMs Mark Paragua and Ronald Dableo won their third round matches Wednesday night to gain a share of second place in the X Championnat de Nice at Grand Aston Hotel in Nice, France.

Paragua beat IM Liubka Georgiva of Bulgaria while Dableo bested Guillame Tuppet of France to boost their totals to 2.5 points, the same score posted by compatriot IM Joseph Sanchez and nine others in the nine-round Swiss system tournament that lured 164 players.

Overnight co-leader Sanchez agreed to a 22-move draw with Grandmaster Nikola Mitkov of FRM via Sicilian Defense.

"*Nag-offer siya* (Mitkov) *ng tabla kaya tinanggap ko naman dahil maaga pa naman*," said IM Sanchez in a long distance interview.

Mitkov was also at 2.5 points with GM Vladimir Georgiev of MKD, GM Petar Genov of Bulgaria, GM Davor Komljenovic and GM Nenad Sulava of Croatia, GM Bela Beda and Sebastian Gachet of Rome, IM Mark Leski and Gilles Moncamp of France, and Francisco Calvacanti of Brazil.

Super GM Igor Miladinovic of Greece grabbed the solo lead by trouncing GM Milko Povchev of Bulgaria in the top board encounter to register his third consecutive win.

PARAGUA

DABLEO

In the fourth round, Sanchez will meet his longtime student Paragua while Asian 3.2a Zone champion Dableo tests the mettle of Sulava.

The European campaign of the Filipino triumvirate is bankrolled by Filway Marketing president Hector Tagaysay, distributor of Timelife Books, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo Foundation, National Chess Federation of the Philippines, Dickies VP/sales and marketing Dody Arcaya, Albert Cruz of Meycauyan, Philippine Air Force, Philippine Navy, former NCFP director Boogie Lim, Col. Rainier Espina and the Philippine Sports Commission.

Meanwhile, presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye faxed a congratulatory message to Paragua, Sanchez and Dableo through the NCFP headquarters on Wednesday.

"I congratulate you (Mark, Ronald, Joseph) for doing well in your France International chess tourney. Our excellent performance will do well in a field where Filipinos have established a tradition of excellence. Good luck in your present campaign in Nice," said Bunye.

Paragua topped the Cannes tournament, edging Sanchez via the tie-break. Dableo, on the other hand, landed in the top 20. *Roy Luarca with a report from NM Marlon Bernardino*

18th PAC Unveils Ad Campaign, Website

9:30pm simulcast of TVC set

The 18th Philippine Advertising Congress (PAC) takes another bold step closer to the Big Idea as it launches today its much-awaited tri-media advertising campaign in a press launch to be held at the ELJ Communications Center, Quezon City.

Bannering the depth and breadth of Filipino ingenuity, the ad campaign drives home the message that ingenuity is the driving force that leads Filipinos to new breakthroughs.

Leading the launch is ABS-CBN chairman and CEO and the 18th PAC overall chairman, Eugenio Lopez III, assisted by the 18th PAC Creative committee chairman David Guerrero, also chairman/executive creative director of BBDO Guerrero Ortega.

"We are excited about the launch of the Ad Congress' tri-media campaign. The 18th Ad Congress Creative Committee and J. Walter Thompson, which won the agency pitch, really worked hard for this. Banking on Filipinos' unique characteristic of inventiveness and resourcefulness, this 'big idea' came out," Guerrero said.

Sharing the Ad Congress' excitement for the launch of the tri-media ad campaign are the country's major TV networks, which will air a simulcast of the TV commercial at 9:30pm.

Also set to make a grand entrance at the press launch is the 18th PAC web site, www.18thpac.com, which offers online registration and payment services, marking a first in Ad Congress history.

The 2003 Araw Awards official rulebook and entry forms may also be downloaded from the website.

Other notable firsts of the 18th PAC are the Bencab-designed Congress logo, the newly-constructed 2,500-seater CAP John Hay Trade and Cultural Center, and the development of an official Ad Congress manual, to name a few.

To oversee and facilitate coordination of all working and sub-committees of the 18th PAC, a first-ever Oversight Committee headed by overall vice-chairman Jose Y. Sy, president of Videofilm and Film Ads, has also been created. Pre-Congress workshops were also organized to discuss various issues proposed by different member-associations of the Advertising Board of the Philippines (AdBoard).

Bubbly and sporty PBA sportscaster Jannelle So and TV newscaster/MTV marketing director Rod Nepomuceno, both columnists of The Philippine Star, lend youth to the much-awaited launch as they host the press gathering.

The 18th PAC will be held at the CAP-John Hay Trade and Cultural Center (CAP-John Hay) in Baguio City from November 19 to 22.

www.18thpac.com

what's the big idea

# FEU spikers dominate opposition

FAR EASTERN stretched its winning run to four on both fronts while favorite University of the East absorbed its first loss in women's play in the 66th University Athletic Association of the Philippines volleyball tournament.

In yesterday's action at the University of the Philippines gym in Diliman, Far Eastern needed only 49 minutes to drub UE, 25-10, 25-19, 25-20, and keep the lead in the men's bracket.

In women's play, the Far Eastern also went 4-0 after a 57-minute 25-20, 25-19, 25-18 whipping of Ateneo.

UP came into the limelight as well, dealing Adamson its first loss in three matches, 32-30, 25-21, 22-25, 25-16. The State U spikers rose to 3-1 to be right behind Far Eastern.

La Salle tied Adamson by stopping Ateneo, 25-17, 25-15, 25-10, while University of Santo Tomas evened its record to 2-2 at the expense of National University, 25-11, 25-18, 25-9.

In other women's tussles, erstwhile co-leader UE absorbed its first loss in four matches when it bowed to Santo Tomas, 25-19, 25-21, 25-15. UST tied its victim and La Salle, 25-12, 25-11, 25-6 winner over National, at second with 3-1 cards.

The UP lasses upended Adamson, 26-24, 25-19, 25-18, for its first win in four starts.

## RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Island King 2. Storm Princess 3. Friendly Lover

Race 2—1. Saguittarius 2. Blu Iris 3. Fancy Free 4. Here I Come

Race 3—1. Coolmore 2. Giden West 3. Red Thunder 4. Montpellier 5. Gold Prosperity

Race 4—1. Ilocos Princess 2. Sandstorm 3. Maayo Sigaw 4. Misty

Race 5—1. Extreme Ilusion 2. Pirouette/Slip Away 3. Will to Fight 4. Naglalabyog 5. Aya's Star

Race 6—1. Ounce of Gold 2. Front Page 3. Divine Right 4. Uncle Buck 5. Everbodyhappy

Race 7—1. Twin Brother 2. Golden Moment 3. Queen of Gala 4. Pride of Mandaue 5. Andee's Ace

Race 8—1. Eightwoconnection 2. Johan Song 3. Key to Heaven 4. Early Warning 5. Baby Love

Race 9—1. Sumasagitsit 2. Super Cool 3. Hurricane Doding 4. Forever Joyce 5. Demolition Jack 6. As for Me

## SPORTS noodle

Bong Barrameda

VOL. I NO. 040

# Tour de Lance

A serving of 7 questions, from easiest to toughest, each with a corresponding point value. Can you score a perfect 100 (or, at least, beat the other 'sports genius/geniuses' beside you)?

1 > 3 Pts.
o True / o False: Lance Armstrong was the first American to win the Tour de France.

2 > 5 Pts.
Before he focused on cycling in 1991, Armstrong had been competing since he was 13 in what lung-busting race?
o Marathon
o Triathlon

3 > 7 Pts.
In 1993, at age 22, Armstrong became the youngest man to win what grueling event?
o Giro d'Italia
o Tour of Spain
o World Racing Championship

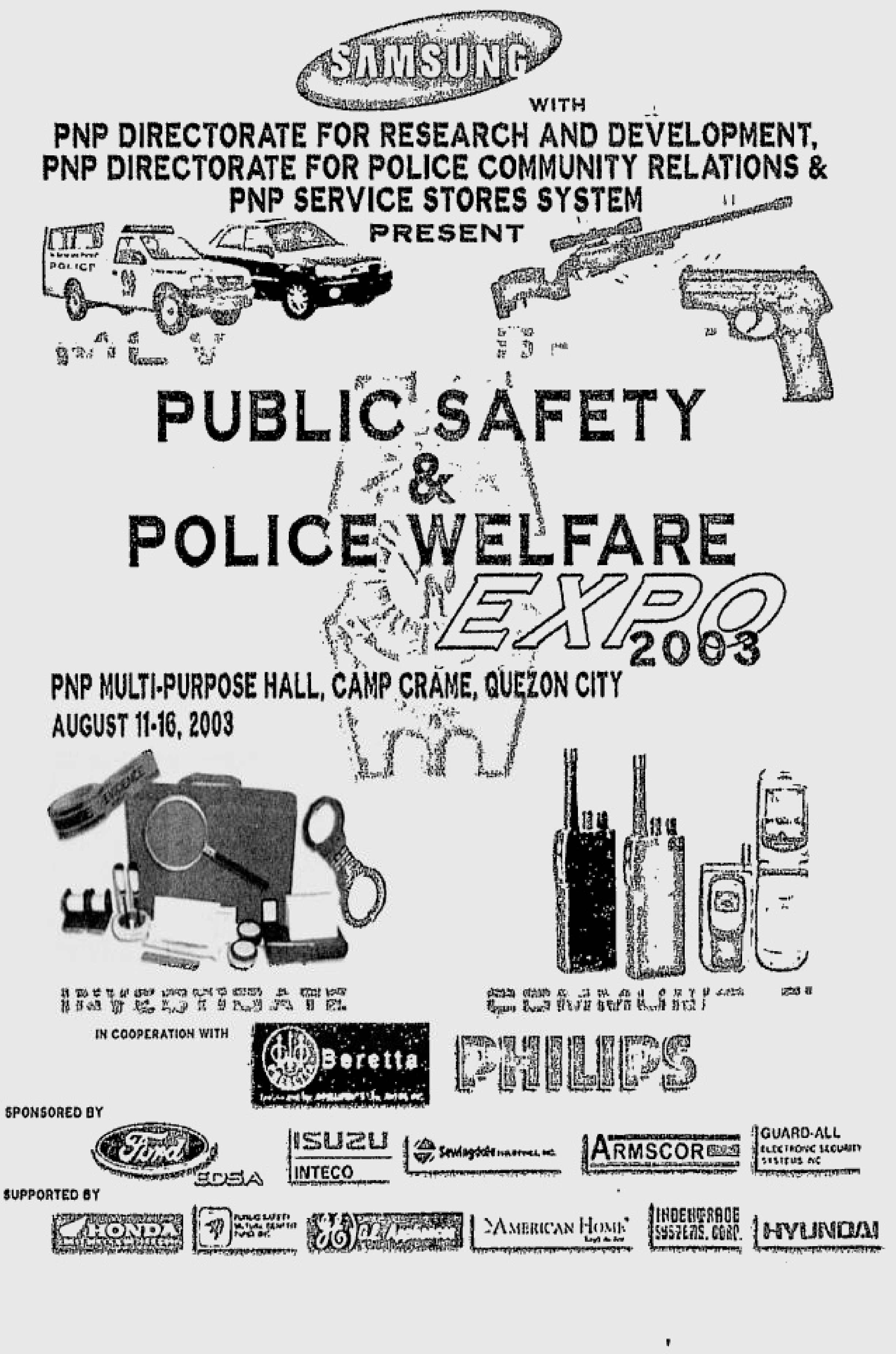
4 > 10 Pts.
Armstrong currently races for which team?
o US Postal Service
o Fedex
o United Postal Service

5 > 15 Pts.
Which bicycle company is the maker of Armstrong's hi-tech carbon-fiber bike?
o Atomic
o Banff
o American Classic
o Trek

6 > 25 Pts.
Armstrong won the recent Tour de France over five-time runner-up Jan Ullrich of Germany by his smallest-ever margin of how many seconds?
o 32
o 55
o 76
o 93

7 > 30 Pts.
Book-pedaling: Complete the title of Armstrong's best-selling autobiography published in 2000: "It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to ____."

ANSWERS/ A29


SAMSUNG
WITH
PNP DIRECTORATE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT,
PNP DIRECTORATE FOR POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS &
PNP SERVICE STORES SYSTEM
PRESENT
PUBLIC SAFETY
&
POLICE WELFARE
EXPO
2003
PNP MULTI-PURPOSE HALL, CAMP CRAME, QUEZON CITY
AUGUST 11-16, 2003
IN COOPERATION WITH
Beretta
PHILIPS
SPONSORED BY
Ford EDSA
ISUZU INTECO
ARMSCOR
GUARD-ALL ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEMS INC
SUPPORTED BY
HONDA
AMERICAN HOME
INDENTRADE SYSTEMS, CORP.
HYUNDAI

## SPORTSWATCH

### GMA invited to Asian trackfest

MACAPAGAL

PRESIDENT Arroyo has been invited to be the principal guest of honor and speaker during the opening ceremonies of the Asian Athletics Association on Sept. 20 at the Rizal track and field stadium. Patafa chief Go Teng Kok, in his capacity as chair of the organizing committee, sent the formal invitation to Malacañang last Monday in behalf of 3As president Shri Suresh Kalmadi, a member of the parliament of India and the 44-member countries that are taking part in the tournament. Go said it is but fitting and proper that President Arroyo address the gathering of the continent's elite athletes. "Besides, many members of royalty and parliament and the diplomatic corps will be around to attend the opening program. They are expecting President Arroyo to grace the occasion," said Go.

### Scoop tackles basketball today

THE FATE of the country's hosting of the Southeast Asian Basketball Association (Seaba) men's championship and the national team's participation in the subsequent Asian Basketball Confederation (ABC) tournament will be the topic in today's SCOOP Sa Kamayan at the Kamayan Restaurant on West Avenue, Quezon City. Basketball Association of the Philippines secretary general Graham Lim, national team patron Jean Henri Lhuillier and his assistant Danny Francisco have been invited as guests. Also expected to grace the session, sponsored by Photokina Marketing, are national team coaches Aric del Rosario, Dong Vergeire and Boysie Zamar.

### Gymnastics seminar Aug. 16-17

A SEMINAR in artistic and rhythmic gymnastics will be held on Aug. 16-17 at the Camarines Sur National High School by the Naga City Sports Council. Sports council overall chair Pedro C. Lee said the training program will involve 300 elementary pupils from 33 public and private schools. Each of the participating schools will receive one set of gymnastics equipment as a donation from Lee. Sports Commissioner Ambrosio B. De Luna is supporting the training project. He is being assisted by Sotero Tejada, the 87-year-old former national president of the gymnastics association. The trainers are Robert Tejada, Carmen A. Tejada, and Divina Beren. Other supporters are Mayor Jesse M. Robredo and Dr. Nenita Ramos, superintendent of the city schools; Dr. Nelly SB Abad, principal of the Camarines Sur National High School; and city division of schools PESS Supervisor Teodoro Palacio. Also lending vital assistance is Milo.

### Jeep rules Clark drag race

JEEP took the limelight away from the eight-cylinder muscle cars in last Saturday's round 1 of the Blaze Shootout Drag Race championship, taking the limelight away from the crowd favorite eight-cylinder muscle cars. Audel Sison of Team Autocraft in his Jeep ran away with a time of 13.681 seconds in the quarter mile at Spur Road in Clark Field, Pampanga. Ken Kepner, a resident of Clark, Angeles, took second place in his Camaro. Kepner, however, eased out competitors in the Quick 8 category with 12.179 seconds under his belt. Second place went to his teammate, Steve Caldwell, who posted a of 13.996 seconds.

### Youth active chess in Davao

THE MINDANAO leg of the Shell National Youth Active Chess Championship will be held Aug. 9-10 at the Atrium of Gaisano Mall, Davao City. Davao junior champion Brene Parreno and Koronadal City's 18-under champion Verniedick Abad are among the favorites in the event sponsored by Pilipinas Shell, McDonald's and Super Ferry. Davao's kiddie champ Jerwell Andoy will lead an equally star-studded field in the 14-under division which also includes Batang Pinoy veteran Jeffrey Alonday of Assumption and Koronadal pride Alfredo Gazmen. Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte and Vice Mayor Luis Bongoyan have been invited to perform the ceremonial moves tomorrow.

### 'Little Tyson' wants Pacquiao

REIGNING IBF superbantam champ Manny Pacquiao is now indeed a marquee name in boxing. Yesterday, the World Boxing Organization superbantam champ Joan "The Little Tyson" Guzman of the Dominican Republic issued a challenge to Pacquiao for a unification duel that would put their IBF and WBO titles on the line for a megabuck fight. The undefeated 27-year-old Guzman, the 5-foot-7 native of Santo Domingo, indicated in an interview with Fightnews.com that he is "the new kid on the block" who wants such marquee names as Pacquiao, WBC champ Oscar Larios, Erik Morales and Marco Antonio Barrera. "It has been torture for me…watching guys I know I can beat holding the headlines. To tell you the truth, I feel anger and I feel mean," Guzman said in the interview, obviously referring to Pacquiao's recent highly publicized win over challenger Emmanuel Lucero at the Grand Olympic Auditorium in Los Angeles last July 27. Guzman, who is undefeated in 19 fights with 15 KOs, won the WBO title when erstwhile champ Agapito Sanchez—the dirty-fighting Dominican who fought Pacquiao to a sixth round draw—was stripped of the title following the discovery of cataracts in his eyes during a routine eye examination. *Salven L. Lagumbay*

### UE-Ateneo in 'Liga' Draw

THE ATENEO De Manila football squad survived another 'slow' day in its football pitch, forcing a 0-0 draw with UAAP champion University of the East in a recent "Ang Liga' duel. Ateneo striker Aries Bocalan and Tristan Tongson have chances to break the standoff but failed. The dismissal of Frank Mabasa left UE a player short for the last 25 minutes and, minus red-carded skipper Lloyd Balajadia, the UE coaching staff must have been happy with the result. Ateneo coach Ompong Merida, of course, could not help but feel disappointed.

### Smit to handle women's squad

JOHNNY Romualdez, EVP of the Philippine Football Federation (PFF), admitted Thursday that Hans Peter Smit is the preferred coach to head the RP Under-19 National Women's squad that will compete in Shanghai, China, next May. Hans, a 6-foot-1 45 year-old, confirmed yesterday the PFF offer by its general secretary Mike Villadolid. Hans has just flown in from a Euro-football sojourn in the Gothia Cup with the Makati Football School. He currently handles the De La Salle University women and La Salle Zobel high school squads. He is also chair of the competitions committee of the NCR Football Association. Two years ago, he guided a national team in 'Futsal' competition in Kuala Lumpur. Hans has won championships in several women's competitions as well as Under-18 and U-16 football.

### 3-cock derby set at PCC

A 3-COCK derby featuring more than 50 fights will be held tonight at the air-conditioned Pasay City Cockpit. At stake is a cash prize of P150,000, according to hosts Gary and Edwin. Entry fee is P5,500. Entries will be accepted until 2 p.m. For inquiries, contact 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750. Also slated are the 3-cock derbies on Aug. 15 (Bert Arizobal and Gerry Maningas) and Aug. 22 (Cito Manansala). Meanwhile, the annual "Richard L. Bates 7-Stag National Derby" sizzles at Pasay Cockpit on Aug. 28 and 30.

### P.5 million at stake in Roligon

PROMOTER Rolly Ligon presents the "Habol Sa Taglugon 4-Cock Derby" on Aug. 23 at the Roligon Mega Cockpit. A guaranteed prize of P500,000 is up for grabs with P6,600 as entry fee. Aside from the P40,000 prize for the handler and P20,000 for the gaffer, also at stake are the following bonus: P50,000 for fastest kill champion, P20,000 fastest kill champion handler and P10,000 fastest kill champion gaffer. On Aug. 16 is the "Special 3-Cock Derby" with a P200,000 prize for the winners. The fastest kill winner will get P10,000 and trophy to be awarded by sexy movie star Pam Lacson. Each participant will automatically receive five T-shirts, three Breeder gift packs from Lakpue Drug Inc. and P2,000 casino chips from Casino Filipino-Parañaque. For inquiries, contact 833-2275 and 833-1638.

# Heavy Bombers seek sixth win w

| STANDINGS | W | L |
|---|---|---|
| **Seniors** | | |
| San Beda | 6 | 2 |
| Letran | 6 | 2 |
| JRU | 5 | 3 |
| Mapua | 4 | 3 |
| SSC-R | 4 | 3 |
| PCU | 3 | 5 |
| UPHR | 2 | 6 |
| CSB | 1 | 7 |
| **Juniors** | | |
| San Beda | 8 | 0 |
| SSC-R | 5 | 2 |
| Letran | 6 | 2 |
| CSB | 5 | 3 |
| Mapua | 4 | 3 |
| PCU | 2 | 6 |
| JRU | 1 | 7 |
| UPHR | 0 | 8 |

**GAMES TOMORROW** (Rizal Coliseum)
11:30 a.m.—JRU vs UPHR (jrs/srs)
4 p.m.—CSB vs PCU (srs/jrs)

JOSE Rizal aims to get back on the winning track when it faces Perpetual Help-Rizal today in the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Coming off a shock 83-70 defeat to the St. Benilde Blazers, the Heavy Bombers are gunning to improve their 5-3 record against the Altas at 2 p.m.

The Blazers are hoping to sustain their luck, this time against the Philippine Christian Dolphins. In shaming the Bombers, St. Benilde arrested its seven-game slide that virtually booted it out of the Final Four for the first time in four years.

The Heavy Bombers edged the Altas, 78-74, at the end of the first round.

The Altas (2-6) are on a six-game slump after being waylaid by the Letran Knights, 60-56, Wednesday.

Dom Javier, Robert Barrison, Rommel Balboa and Gerald Botin seem to have lost their winning touch for the Altas, leaving Khiel Misa, Marcel Cuenco, Wayne San-

# Warriors trip biteless Bulldogs

By Dennis U. Eroa

**GAMES TOMORROW** (Araneta Coliseum)
2 p.m.—FEU vs UP (Srs)
4 p.m.— La Salle vs Ateneo (Srs)
6 p.m.—La Salle vs Ateneo (Jrs)

THE UNIVERSITY of the East Warriors strolled to a 75-69 victory over biteless National University Bulldogs yesterday to snap its two-game losing skein in the UAAP men's basketball championship at the Araneta Coliseum.

"I'm not impressed but this victory should put us back on track and challenge us to do better," said UE coach Boyzie Zamar. "The team needs to have a killer's instinct because the other competing teams are willing to die in order to win."

Playing with reckless abandon, the Warriors, the 1984-85 champions, roared to their biggest lead, 62-40, one minute left in the third period, but nearly fell victim to sloppy plays in the fourth when the bulldogs made their move.

The win snapped UE's two-game losing streak as it improved to 3-2.

NU absorbed its fifth straight setback after beating UP, 74-70, during the opener of the league's 66th season on July 13 also at the same venue.

With their half-court offense producing nothing but missed shots, the Warriors saw their 22-point lead whittle to 10 at the start of the fourth, 63-53, 5:13 remaining.

Arnold Booker and Olam Omiping, however, saved the Warriors from disaster when they hit their shots even as Paul Artadi's split from the free throw lane iced the game, 74-65, 25 seconds remaining.

Zamar said the mental toughness of his wards remains suspect, but there's no need to press the panic button yet.

"We lost to La Salle and FEU, respectively, because we weren't mentally ready. We also didn't play team basketball. But this win should inspire the team. I remain confident that we'll soon get over the hump," said Zamar. UE's remaining foes are Santo Tomas and UP, respectively.

James Yap, whose missed free throws cost UE's game against FEU last week, scored 12 points and grabbed eight rebounds, but it was Booker who took over the scoring points with 22 points.

Artadi contributed nine points, on top of nine assists but committed seven turnovers, forcing Zamar to give playing minutes to Adrian Ronquillo, who responded with seven points.

A happy member of the UE crowd was the legendary Virgilio Baby Dalupan, who authored UE's dynasty in the UAAP during the '50s and '60s.

In the second game, UP entered the winning column after a 0-4 start by downing Santo Tomas, 75-55. The Tigers dropped to 2-3.

**First Game (Jrs)**

**UE 98**—De la Cruz 32, Zamar 16, Tungcul 13, Chua 9, Porlaje 8, Sumalinog 6, Simbulan 6, Juliane 6, Ogalino 2, Mendoza 0.

**NU 47**—Conopio 11, Balabbo 11, Piamonte 10, De Leon 9, Co 3, Valencia 2, Garduno, Gawson 0, Carlos 0.

**Quarters:** 25-78, 49-22, 67-27, 98-47

**Second Game (Srs)**

**UE 76**—Booker 22, Yap 12, Artadi 9, Masbang 7, Ronquillo 7, Tan 6, Omiping 6, Alminario 3, Butel 2, Canaleta 2, Napo 0.

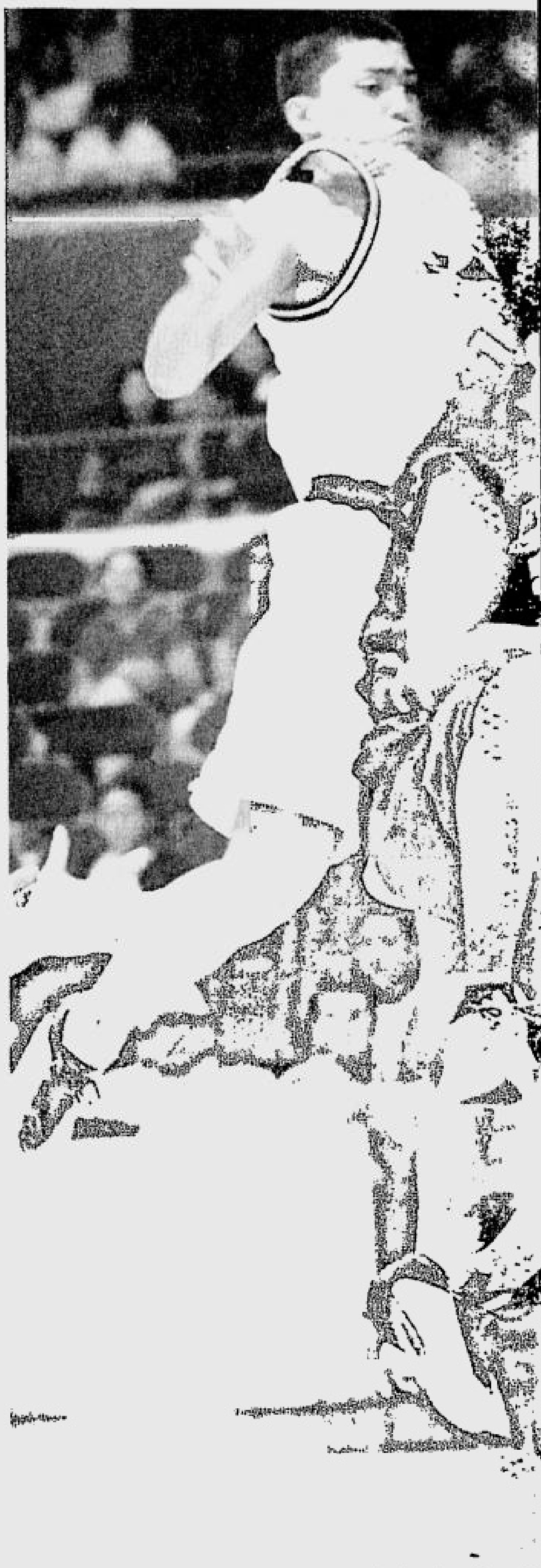
**NU 69**—Mendoza 24, Catamora 13, Tolentino 8, Cajayon 6, Miclat 6, Jon 1, Mollena 0, Malagueno 0.

**Quarters:** 29-15, 44-29, 62-42, 76-69

**UP 73**—Cruz 15, Robin 12, Reyes 11, Ibanes 11, Bornancin 9, Cervantes 5, David 4, Epres 4, Ferrer 2, Buyco 0, Carlos 0, Tabuque 0.

**UST 55**—Hubalde 10, De Guzman 9, Espiritu 8, Cortez 5, Manansala 5, Evangelista 4, Raterta 4, Dizon 3, Villamin 3, Vizcarra 2, Del Rosario 2, Luanzon 0.

**Quarters:** 9-13, 39-26, 56-39, 73-55.


'UP's Jayr Reyes (right) beats a UST defender for the rebound.

# Lady Archers trip Ateneo lasses in OT

LA SALLE continued to show its poise in women's basketball action of the 66th UAAP season, but it had to go into overtime in booking its second straight win yesterday at the Adamson University gymnasium.

The Lady Archers struggled past archrival Lady Eagles, 67-62, to share the provisional lead with tournament host Adamson Lady Falcons, who who were idle yesterday.

The setback was the second in three games for the Lady Eagles, who lost an opening-day victory over University of the Philippines (UP) by forfeiture.

In that game, Ateneo fielded a player who failed the tournament's citizenship requirements.

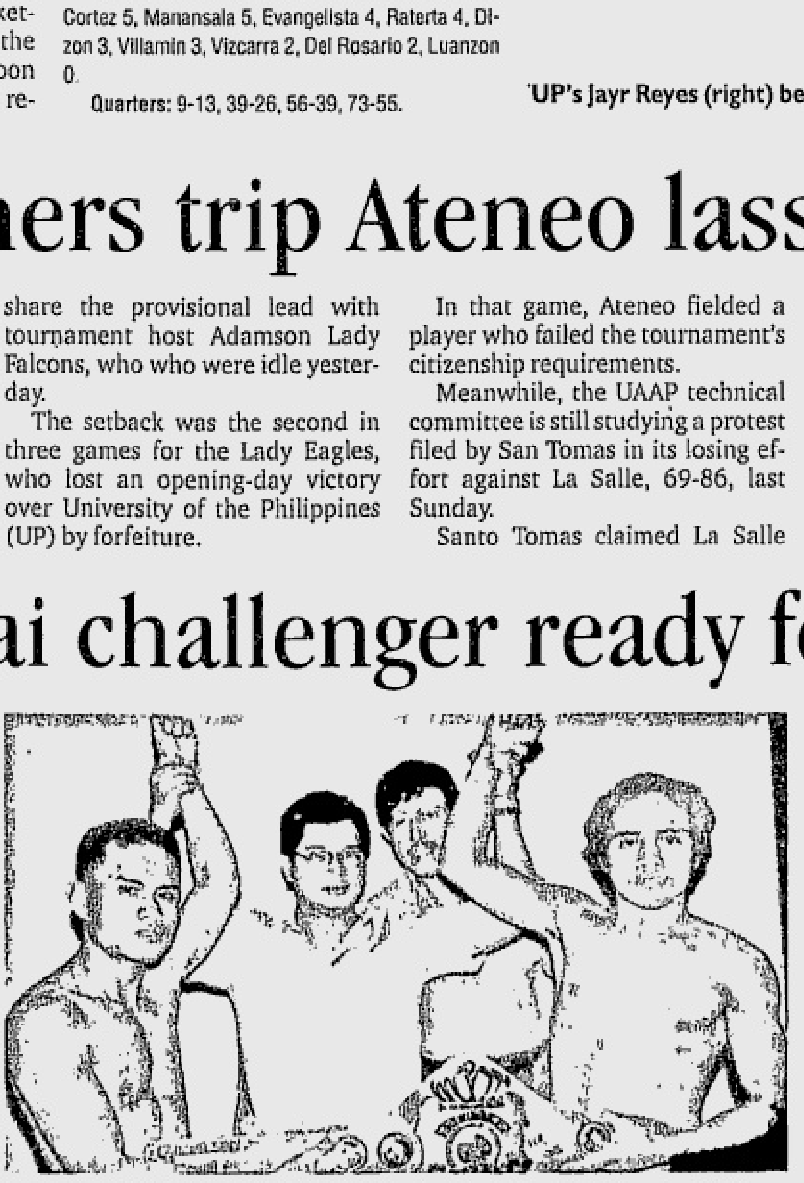
Meanwhile, the UAAP technical committee is still studying a protest filed by San Tomas in its losing effort against La Salle, 69-86, last Sunday.

Santo Tomas claimed La Salle fielded 13 players during the match, one more than league regulations.

Far Eastern University notched its first win in three starts, beating University of the East, 55-41, while Santo Tomas could not sustain its drive and lost to University of the Philippines, 60-55.

# Tough Thai challenger ready for Lunas

By Salven L. Lagumbay


**MANDALUYONG** Mayor Benhur Abalos City raises the hands of Thai Challenger Deeden Kengkaroon and Paba Flyweight Champion Rolly Lunas at the Sports Forum held at the Manila Pavilion. At the rear is promoter Jun Sarreal.

HE arrived Sunday night from Bangkok oozing with confidence. He said he has what it takes to bring back the Paba title to Thailand where, he adds, it rightly belongs.

Whether Thai hero Deeden Kengkarun can live up to his mission will be known when he challenges Paba flyweight champion Rolly Lunas in the 12-round main event of the "Bakbakan sa Mandaluyong" card tonight.

The card, which is backed by Mandaluyong City Mayor Benhur Abalos and the Philippine Sportswriters' Association, is for the benefit of the Filipino Disabled Boxers' Fund.

Kengkarun, (21-9-2, 12 KOs) a former Paba junior fly ruler, knows what it takes to wrest the title from Lunas. He claims he has the experience and physical stamina to last even if the fight goes the distance.

Lunas (14-2, 8 KOs) will be defending the title he won in enemy territory with a 12-round majority decision over Khunsuk Lukprabat last May 29 in Samutsakorn, Thailand.

The challenger, described by people familiar with Thai boxing as an "ultra-tough power-puncher who is very comfortable in the flyweight division," remains unperturbed by the fact that he will be fighting without the notorious Thai crowd behind him. After all, this is his second trip to the Philippines.

On Nov. 6, 1997, an inexperienced Kengkarun came to Manila to battle the tough veteran Ronnie Magramo. He lost to Magramo by decision then but Kengkarun says he won't let the judges decide the outcome this time. He vowed to chase Lunas from the start.

Philippine bantam king Johnny Lear of Guadalupe, Cebu will defend his crown for the first time against battle-tested Alvin Felisilda in another 12-round tiff serving as main supporting bout.

Other backers of the card include Ernie Yu and Family Rubbing Alcohol, Jimmy Sy and Red Bull, Unilab, Revicon, Legend Hotel, San Miguel Corp., and Gov. Tony Puyat of the Rotary Club 3800.

# s anemic Altas

tos and Vladimir Joe to carry the load.

Jose Rizal's Marco Polo Fajardo, Kenneth Coyukang, McDonald Santos, Wynsjohn Te, Edward Attunaga and Mark Lindaya are expected to pounce on every opportunity to make the Altas work for every shot.

The Blazers are raring to get back at the Dolphins, who frustrated them, 69-68, in the first round.

National team mainstays Al Magpayo and Ronald Capati will be at the frontline of the Blazers' assault while Paolo Orbeta, Gilbert Good and Juan Luis Abad take care of the backcourt.

Coming off losses against leaders Letran and San Beda, Philippine Christian is also expected to come out strong this time with Joseph Roque, Arden Guiyab, Robert Sanz, Ramon Retaga and Ian Vincent Garrido on the firing end. *June Navarro*

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

# Powerful Brazil five wraps up Pan-Am diadem

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic—Brazil silenced an overflow crowd of Dominican fans with a 23-2 run to open the game, and went on to defeat the host country 89-62 to win the gold medal in men's basketball at the Pan American Games.

Puerto Rico beat the United States 76-70 to win the bronze.

Midway through the bronze medal match at Palacio de los Deportes, fans began to stream into the half-filled arena. By tipoff, every seat and aisle was filled with spectators, and many outside still wanted to get in.

Brazil's fast start did not entirely dampen the spirits of the Dominican faithful, as they roared to life when a 3-pointer made the score 23-5.

Buoyed by the din from the crowd, the Dominican team stayed even with the Brazilians, and chipped away at their lead, closing to within 13 points at halftime.

The teams went back and forth for part of the third quarter and a dunk by Dominican Jeffrey Greer brought a thunderous eruption of noise from the crowd. But the home side never got within striking distance of quick Brazilians.

Brazil pushed the ball at almost every opportunity, moving at a rhythm faster than that of the few yellow-clad samba drummers in the stands.

With Marcelo shooting from outside and Guilherme and Tiago inside, rebounding, the Dominicans were simply overmatched.

Guilherme led Brazil with 20 points while Marcelo had 13, and shot 3-of-7 from three-point range. Greer was the top scorer for the Dominicans, netting 13.

Puerto Rico, which also beat the Americans in the group stage, was led by Carlos Arroyo with 23 points and Sharif Fajardo with 22. *AP*

# Coseteng gunning for 4th title in row

DEFENDING champion Jody Coseteng of Red Horse-San Miguel-Caltex tries to move even closer to an unprecedented fourth title when the SVI-Petron Grand Prix resumes with the 11th and 12th rounds at the Subic International Raceway on Sunday, July 13.

Coseteng, who dominated eighth of the previous 10 rounds with surprising ease, will set out as the overwhelming favorite anew in the centerpiece Blaze super saloon category.

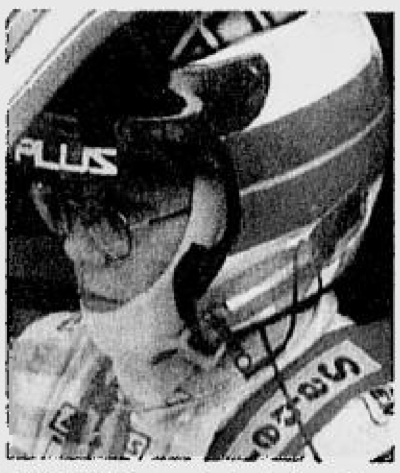
The multi-awarded campaigner, who rose to prominence by winning the overall title in 1995, has a 10-round aggregate of 86 points based on the 10-6-4-3-2-1 scoring system being used by the organizing Sports Values Inc.

"I'll still go for the win (even though I'm already way ahead)," said Coseteng, who looked almost unstoppable in his well-maintained Toyota Corolla.

Coseteng's closest rival—Kookie Ramirez of Petron-SRA—is too far behind to pose a threat in the overall standings in this 14-part series organized by the SVI and Petron Corp. for the 10th straight year.

Ramirez, who finished runner-up in the last two years, has 45 points based on one win and five second-place finishes.

Completing the top five drivers in the overall standings are Mike Anton of Red Bull-Auto Options, third with 39 points; Louie Ramirez of Petron-SRA, fourth with 32 points; and Francis Godinez of SRA, fifth with 22 points.

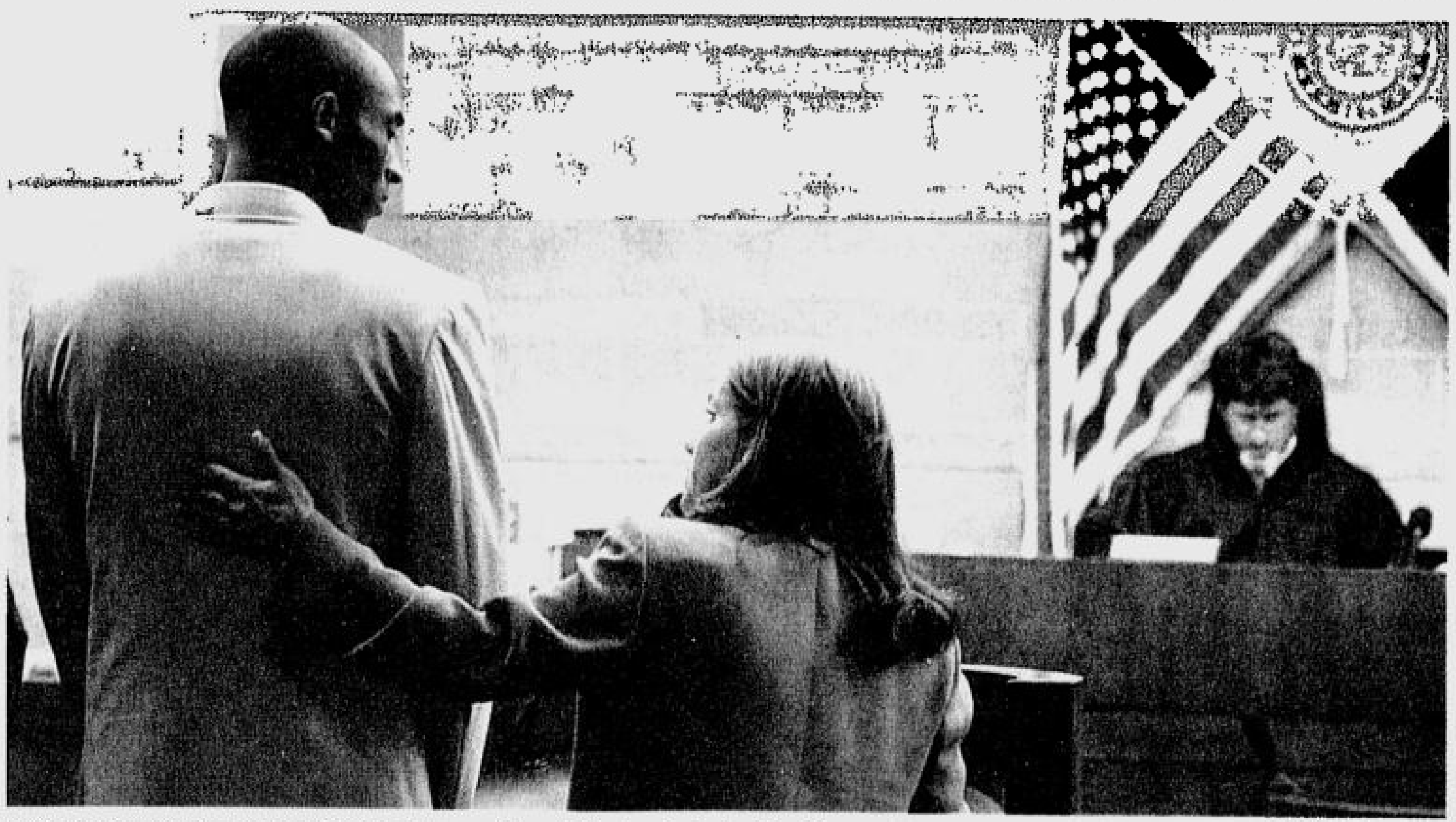


**COSETENG** overwhelming favorite.

The battle for top honors in the SVI Challenge Cup is a lot closer with Gabby de la Merced of Petron-Auto Solutions and Mikko David of Red Horse-Big Shot Billiards tied for the lead with 42 points apiece and Oscar Aguilar of Caltex in close third with 41 points.

Darryl Flores of Auto Solutions is way ahead in the novice category with 80 points.

Dennis Uy of Velocity Motors is a far second with 48 points.



**BRYANT** is patted on the back by his attorney Pamela Mackey in Judge Fred Gannett's courtroom at the Eagle, Colorado County Justice Center, Aug. 6.

REUTERS

# Kobe appears in court on sexual assault charge

EAGLE, Colorado—Basketball superstar Kobe Bryant made his first court appearance on a sexual assault charge, uttering just two words during a seven-minute hearing that created a media frenzy in this quiet mountain town.

Attorneys for the 24-year-old Bryant waived his right Thursday to be formally advised of the felony assault charge, sparing the Los Angeles Lakers guard even more time in the granite-walled courtroom that was jammed with reporters.

Judge Frederick Gannett set an Oct. 9 preliminary hearing to determine whether the case will go to trial. The hearing would be one day after a Lakers' preseason game and about three weeks before the start of the regular season.

Bryant spoke only once during the hearing, answering "No, sir" when the judge asked if he objected to giving up his right to have the preliminary hearing held within 30 days.

Bryant left the courthouse immediately and was expected to return to California by private jet.

Bryant has said he had consensual sex with the 19-year-old hotel clerk June 30 but is innocent of assault.

If convicted, Bryant faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation, and a fine of up to $750,000. He is free on $25,000 bond.

The case has been the subject of widespread speculation about Bryant's accuser, a college student who worked at the front desk of the Lodge & Spa at Cordillera in nearby Edwards. Bryant was in Colorado to have knee surgery in nearby Vail.

The judge asked the county sheriff to investigate whether law enforcement officials were leaking details to reporters in a case he said he was drawing "extraordinary" media coverage.

"I am concerned with some reports that I have seen in the press," Gannett said. "They appear to address issues that are not generally available to the public."

Gannett has already issued a gag order in the case and is weighing media requests to release court records.

The media circus Wednesday included hundreds of reporters and photographers who swamped the courthouse grounds before the hearing, which was carried live on national cable networks. Even the jury box was filled with curious courthouse employees. *AP*

# *Bryants faced hurdles long before scandal*

LOS ANGELES—They met at a music video shoot. She was an 18-year-old high school student working as a background model. He was 21, living in wealthy Pacific Palisades with a huge NBA contract and millions of dollars in endorsement deals.

Six months later, Kobe Bryant and Vanessa Laine were engaged. A year later, in April 2001, they walked over red rose petals to begin their life together.

Even before the accusations of sexual assault against the Los Angeles Lakers superstar, their marriage had already endured many hurdles.

About a dozen people attended their private wedding ceremony, but the basketball player's parents—Joe and Pam Bryant—weren't among them.

Kobe's parents had already moved back East after living with their only son during his first couple of years in the NBA. A rift developed because his parents objected to his marriage to Vanessa.

"I had taken matters into my own hands, marrying my wife so young, they didn't know her," Kobe told ABC Sports in June.

After the marriage, his father rarely attended Lakers games and the two reportedly didn't speak to each other for nearly two years.

"Twenty years from now, when his own child grows up, he'll understand what I'm doing," Joe Bryant told the Los Angeles Times in an interview in April.

Vanessa's mother, Sofia Laine, also had misgivings.

"Although I was happy for Vanessa, particularly since Kobe is a very kind and respectful young man, their relationship caused a great deal of stress for me," she said in court documents filed in her divorce case.

Lakers coach Phil Jackson also questioned the wisdom of such a young person getting married.

Since their marriage, Kobe and Vanessa Bryant have led their lives out of the limelight—as much as possible for a celebrity couple.

Their marriage license is a special type covered by confidentiality laws. And it is not known, for example, whether the couple has a prenuptial agreement. Such agreements are private contracts and typically don't become public unless there is a divorce filing.

Kobe Bryant usually keeps to himself when on road trips with the team; and Vanessa rarely attends Lakers games or Hollywood events.

**BRYANT** and wife Vanessa in file photo.

AP

But when her husband was charged with sexual assault, she appeared at a news conference, holding his hand and stroking it tenderly as the NBA star admitted he was guilty of adultery—but nothing else. Earlier, she had issued her own statement to the media, vowing to stand by her husband.

"I know that my husband has made a mistake—the mistake of adultery," she said. "He and I will have to deal with that within our marriage, and we will do so. He is not a criminal."

The Bryants' representatives will not answer questions, instead referring calls to Kobe's criminal defense attorney, Pamela Mackey. Her office said the couple isn't accepting interview requests. Attorneys in the case are now also under a gag order.

Before they married, court documents show Vanessa's family life was already in turmoil. Her mother and stepfather filed for bankruptcy in 2000, and Vanessa and Kobe helped them out with cash and gifts worth more than $500,000, according to documents filed in the Laines' pending divorce case.

Kobe also paid off a $230,000 mortgage on his in-laws' Garden Grove house, according to the court filings, as well as phone, dental and credit card bills and two car loans.

Then in July 2002, Sofia Laine filed for divorce, claiming in court documents that husband Stephen Laine was "involved in another relationship." They had been married for 12 years.

About a month before the divorce filing, Sofia Laine, who wasn't working because of debilitating back pain, told the court she was no longer receiving cash gifts from Vanessa and Kobe.

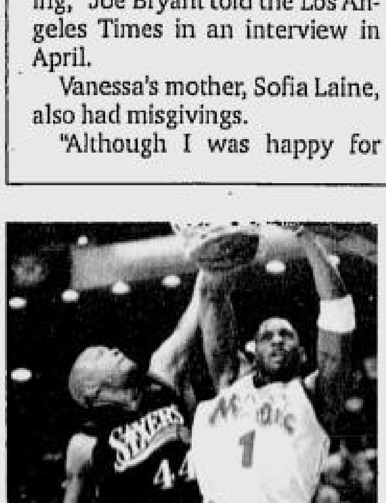
The financial support is at issue because Stephen Laine's filings show he believes he should pay less than standard alimony.

"I never represented to my mother that I would 'take care of her' financially if she stopped working," Vanessa Bryant told the court last September.

Stephen Laine's attorney, Glen Rabenn, said his client would not comment on his stepdaughter, who took his last name in 2000 even though he never adopted her.

"He does not want to offend Vanessa. He loves Vanessa as his own daughter," Rabenn said. And he "thinks the world of Kobe."

One of Sofia Laine's attorneys, Doreen Olson, didn't return messages. *AP*



**COLEMAN (44) fails to stop Tracy McGrady from making a dunk in file photo.**

AP

# Sixers keep Coleman for $13.5M

PHILADELPHIA—Derrick Coleman re-signed with the Philadelphia 76ers on Wednesday, inking a three-year contract worth up to $13.5 million.

Coleman, 36, has averaged 17.0 points and 9.5 rebounds in 13 NBA seasons.

Last year he moved from power forward to center and averaged 9.4 points and 7.0 rebounds while playing well for the team that once bought out his contract just to get rid of him.

New Jersey took Coleman first overall in the 1990 NBA Draft. He never lived up to his potential and was traded to the 76ers in 1995 in a deal that saw Shawn Bradley go to the Nets.

He spent three seasons in Philadelphia, which were marred by injury and constant off-court problems.

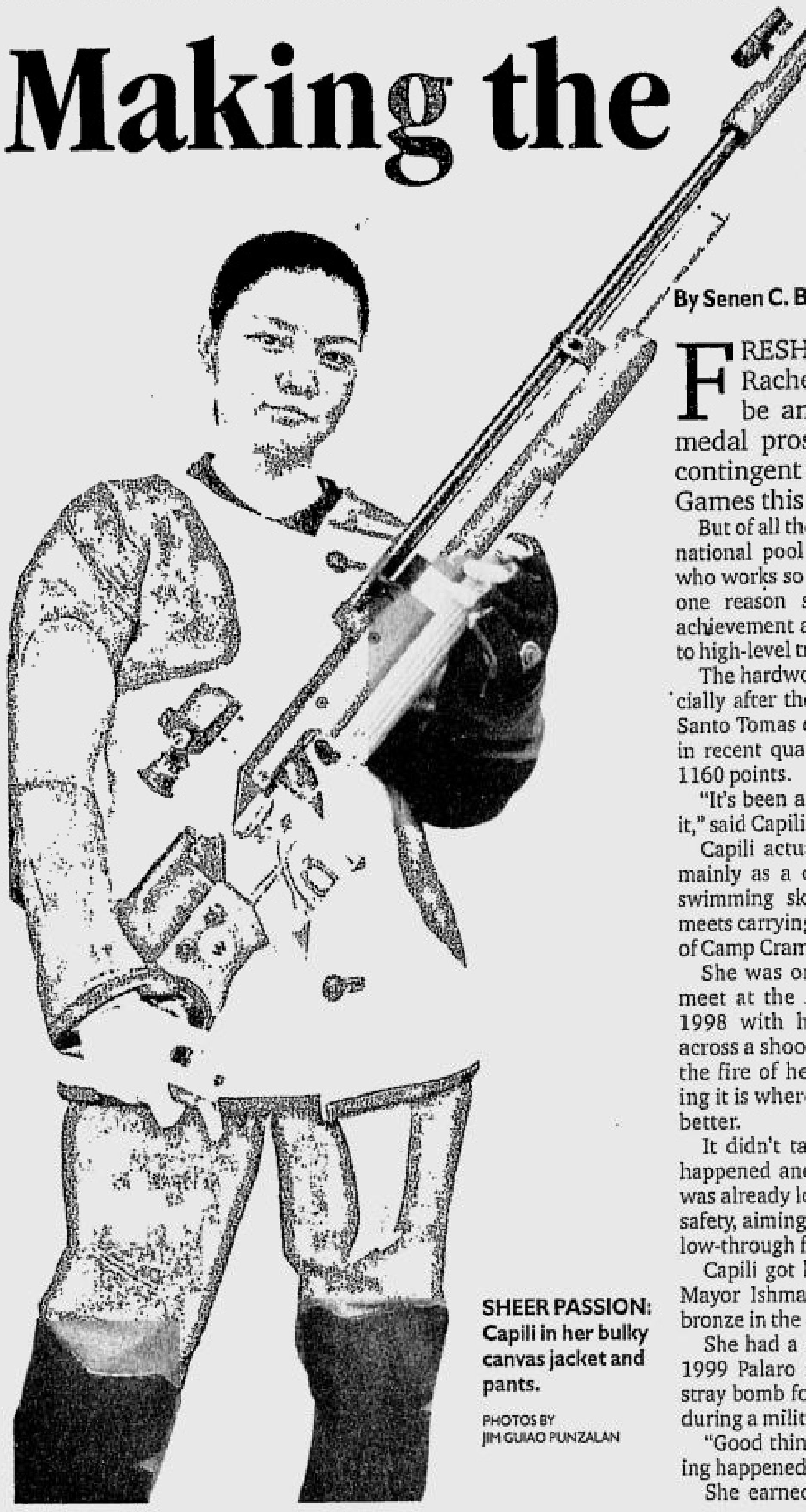
After the 1997-98 season, the 76ers bought out the final year of Coleman's contract for $5.57 million, rather than pay him $13 million for his fourth year of the pact.

Coleman then signed a $40 million contract with Charlotte in 1998 and was traded back to Philadelphia before the 2001-2002 season after feuding with coach Paul Silas there.

He has become a team leader for the Sixers his second time around with the team, averaging 13.6 points and 8.0 rebounds in the playoffs last year while playing some of his best basketball in recent years.

## RACHEL MARIE CAPILI

# Making the right choice



**SHEER PASSION:** Capili in her bulky canvas jacket and pants.

PHOTOS BY
JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

By Senen C. Bravo

FRESH faces like rifle shooter Rachel Marie Capili may not be among the so-called gold medal prospects of the Philippine contingent to the Southeast Asian Games this December in Vietnam.

But of all the new names cropping up in the national pool of talents, Capili is someone who works so hard and with sheer passion—one reason she has been piling up one achievement after another since she went into high-level training.

The hardwork is paying off for Capili especially after the 19-year-old nursing junior at Santo Tomas earned a trip to the SEA Games in recent qualifying where her team scored 1160 points.

"It's been a long road but it was all worth it," said Capili.

Capili actually started out as a swimmer mainly as a cure to her asthma woes. Her swimming skills brought her to inter-club meets carrying the banner of the SEA Dragons of Camp Crame.

She was on her way home from a swim meet at the Amoranto Sports Complex in 1998 with her brother when they came across a shooting competition. That lighted the fire of her interest in shooting, believing it is where she can improve on her skills better.

It didn't take long before the conversion happened and with her father in tow, Capili was already learning shooting basics like gun safety, aiming, breathing, positioning and follow-through from coach Orly Marquez.

Capili got her baptism of fire in the 1999 Mayor Ishmael Cup where she bagged the bronze in the open sight event.

She had a close brush with tragedy in the 1999 Palaro ng Bayan in Koronadal after a stray bomb found its way into her apartment during a military operation.

"Good thing we have left when the bombing happened," said Capili.

She earned her spurs joining events as a UST entry and in the recent Southeast Asian Shooting Association Championships in Hanoi, she made a big splash by scoring 375 points (a pre-qualifying score used in the Olympics) in the 10-meter precision junior women's event.

> In the recent Southeast Asian Shooting Association Championships in Hanoi, she made a big **splash** by scoring 375 points (a pre-qualifying score used in the Olympics) in the 10-meter event

She finally struck gold last April in the 2003 PNSA National Open Shooting Championships. She won the medium bull and big bull events and copped a bronze in the 10-m air rifle precision women's team event using her German-made Feinwerkbau P70 rifle.

Capili still swims not just for conditioning but also for principles that are supplementary.

"Swimming's balancing and sweet spot can be applied to shooting," admits Capili.

At home, Capili aims her rifle at a mirror for several minutes until her arms get used to the shooting position.

"We call this dry firing," said Capili.

Before she boards the plane to Vietnam, Capili should have been toughened up by her rigid training and overseas exposure.

Capili trains with the national pool during weekends at the Marine Firing Range in Ft. Bonifacio under noted Russian coach Marat Niyazov, the three-time world shooting champion, for technique and coach Oscar de Leon for visualization exercises.

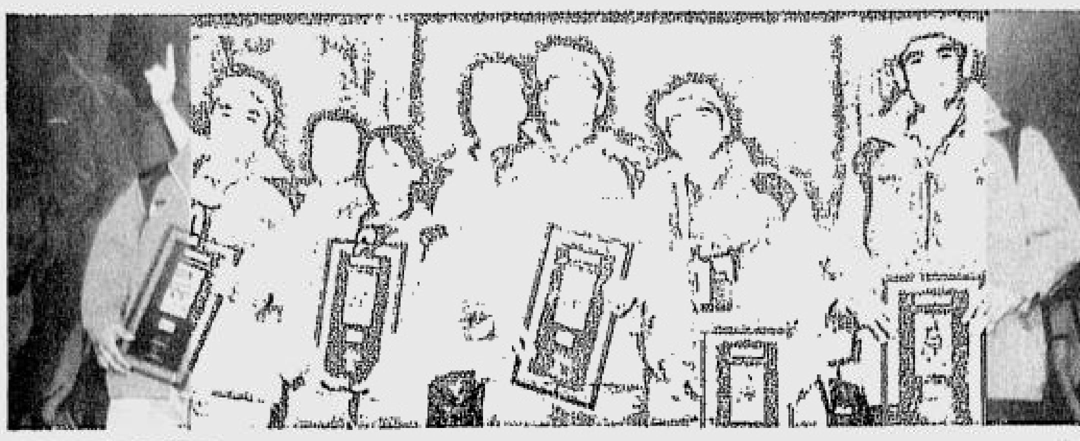
Tuneup games await the nationals in October in Thailand (National Open Invitational) and in Taiwan (Seasa), where second stringers are expected to see action.

The 22-man shooting team will compete in the air rifle (men, women), free-rifle prone (men), air pistol (men, women), rapid fire (men), standard pistol (men), center fire pistol (men), trap (women, men) and skeet (men).

Raw as she is with only a few years of firing experience, Capili is still literally finding her range in a demanding sport which she came to learn by accident.

If ever she comes home with a medal from Vietnam this December, blame it not on accident but her appetite for success.

Are U in?
What makes the youth tick? Catch 2bU! every Wednesday in the Lifestyle Section.
INQUIRER 2bU!



**MOAB BOUND**
Joeffrey Caranto, Edison Cervantes, Charles Anthony Unchuan, Jose Martin Cruz Jr. and lone female Candice Yap Madamba beam with pride after being named to the 2003 Marlboro Adventure Team (MAT) that will participate in the MAT worlds in Moab, Utah, from Sept. 13 to 25. Sharing the stage with them in the grand sendoff party at the NBC Tent recently are Bo Ekberg, Philip Morris Phils. Manufacturing Inc. Marketing Director, and Jasper Evangelista, Brand Manager of Marlboro.

# Five Pinoys hie off to Utah for the ultimate adventure

**By June Navarro**

HAVE you ever seen a leisure guide featuring the sights and sounds of Moab?

There isn't any because that strip of deserted land in Utah wasn't made for the holidays. Still, outdoor lovers salivate at the mere thought of it, especially when they think about the exploits of the Marlboro Adventure Team.

The craving is about to end for five thrill-seeking Filipinos.

Edison Cervantes, Jon Cruz, Candice Madamba, Charles Unchuan and Jeff Caranto have been plucked from a horde of Moab hopefuls to experience what they dubbed as the adventure of a lifetime.

Horseback riding, white-water rafting, orienteering, hiking, riding 4X4s and ATVs. These are just some of the challenges they will try to hurdle in a 10-day trip to the Moab late this year.

"Once you are in Moab, you will realize you can do things you thought you could never do. You will be doing twice as much as you think you can and ten times as much as your mother thinks you can," said Bob Eckberg, marketing director of Philip Morris Philippines.

"It's about pushing yourself. It's about taking a dream and making it real. After a trip with the adventure team, you come out changed," he added.

The members of this year's Marlboro Adventure Team were announced in a lavish party inside the NBC Tent at The Fort.

"This is really exciting. It's the best thing that has happened to me. It will allow me to explore my capabilities further," said Cervantes.

But so far the best thing that has happened for the MAT was Madamba, who owns the distinction of becoming the first woman to survive the pre-trials and make it to the team.

"*Hindi pa nagsi*-sink in *ang* feeling. I'm proud to be the first woman who made it," said Madamba, who works as a copyreader in a publishing firm.

Cruz was also ecstatic as he groped for words to describe the feeling.

"I couldn't stand on my feet (after my name was called) and I was really shaking," said Cruz.

When these guys go to Moab, they would not only bring their expectations but also their identities as representatives of the country.

"I'm taking my identity with me," said Carranto, a geologist. "I've never been so proud to be a Filipino and I hope I can show the other people there what a Filipino can do."

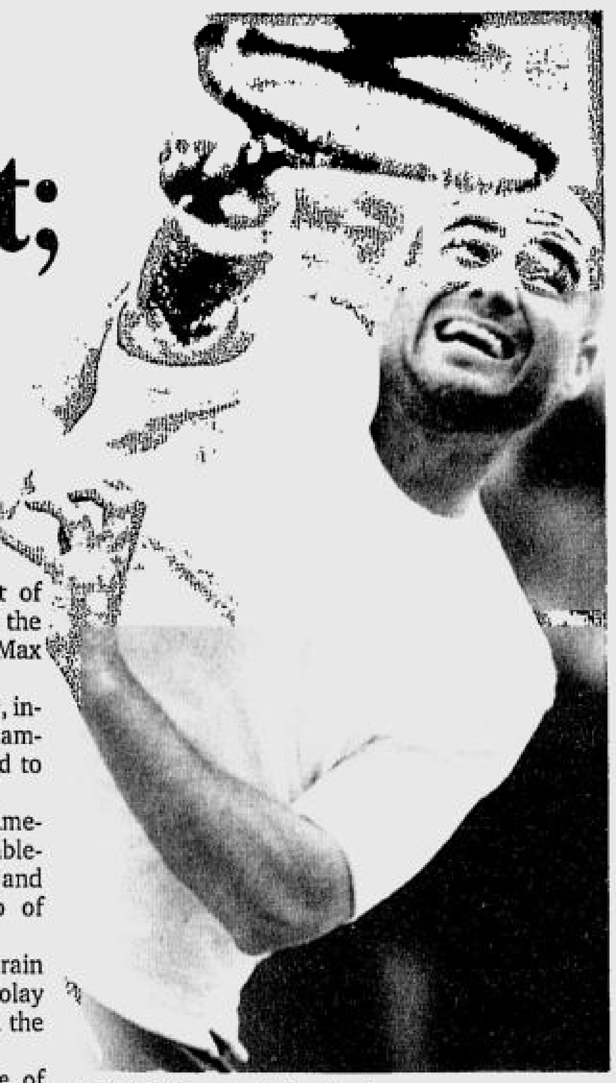
After being picked from a narrow list of 25 finalists, they ought to be proud of it.

Philip Morris selected the 25 from thousands of applications and were tested against the forces of nature, their competitors and themselves.

"We made them go through a lot. They rode out in 4X4 vehicles, ATVs and rafts. They did the Tyrolean traverse and went rappelling. It was really a tough test for the participants," said Blue Reyna, the event manager.

Apart from physical skill and endurance, Reyna said the survivors were selected partly because of their character.

# Hewitt bows out; Agassi survives



**AGASSI: Too much for Russian** AP

MONTREAL—Former No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt of Australia was upset in the second round of the Canada Masters, losing 7-5, 6-7 (4), 7-5 to Max Mirnyi Belarus on Wednesday.

Hewitt has lost four of his last nine matches, including a first-round exit as the defending champion at Wimbledon. His ranking has dropped to No. 5 in the world.

Those reaching the third round included Americans Andre Agassi and Andy Roddick, Wimbledon champion Roger Federer of Switzerland and French Open winner Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain.

Andre Agassi waited through a 1 1/2-hour rain delay, then made quick work of Russia's Nikolay Davydenko 7-6 (3), 6-2 Wednesday to reach the third round of the Canada Masters.

His next opponent will be Simon Larose of Canada, who beat Argentina's Jose Acususo 7-6 (5), 1-6, 7-5.

Larose, who's ranked 314th, upset three-time French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil in the first round.

In other action, Roddick topped Argentina's Juan Ignacio Chela 7-6 (6), 6-2, Federer beat Britain's Greg Rusedski 6-4, 6-3, Ferrero defeated Morocco's Younes el Aynaoui 6-3, 6-4 and 2002 Wimbledon runner-up David Nalbandian of Argentina ousted Britain's Tim Henman 6-4, 6-4.

America's Vince Spadea eliminated Frenchman Arnaud Clement 6-0, 6-7 (5), 7-5 and Thailand's Paradorn Srichaphan ousted Daniel Nestor of Canada 7-5, 6-4. *AP*

# Kim nears top spot

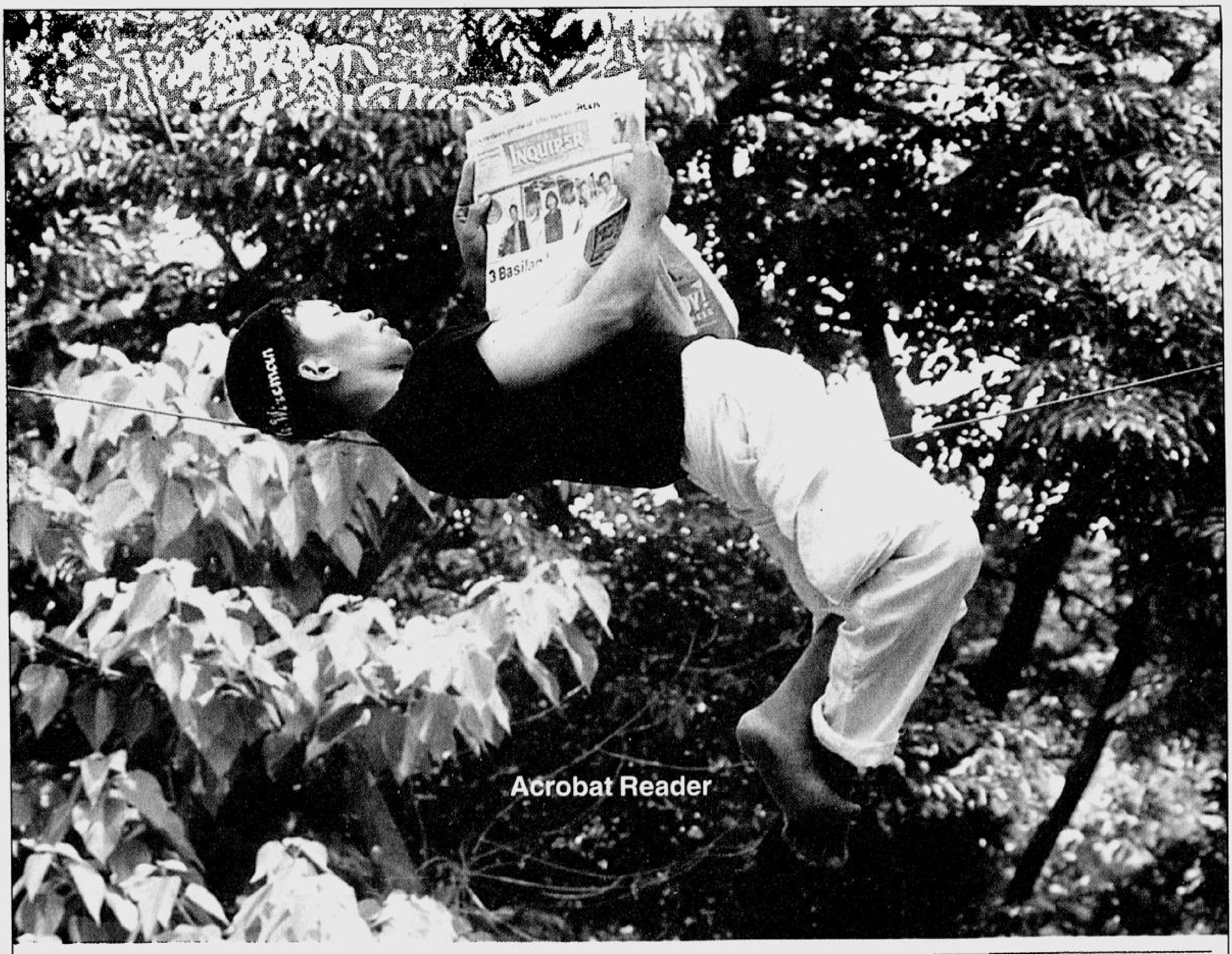
CARSON, California—Belgium's Kim Clijsters moved closer to replacing Serena Williams at No. 1, beating Emilie Loit 6-1, 6-1 in 50 minutes Wednesday in the second round of the JPMorgan Chase Open.

Clijsters is on the verge of overtaking the injured Williams as the world's top-ranked player. Williams had knee surgery Friday and will be out up to two months. No. 5 Jelena Dokic and lost to Svetlana Kuznetsova; No. 9 Elena Dementieva was beaten by Virginia Ruano Pascual; No. 12 Eleni Daniilidou lost to Nicole Pratt and No. 15 Alexandra Stevenson quit while trailing Viktoriya Kutuzova. *AP*

## SPORTS noodle

ANSWERS From page A25

1. False (Greg Lemond was first in 1986)
2. Triathlon
3. World Racing Championship
4. US Postal Service
5. Trek
6. 76
7. "Life"



For the past 9 years, the Philippine Daily Inquirer has topped the Asia Research Organization Readership Survey as the No.1 broadsheet in the country. This year, we've done it again, thanks to the faith of our readers, advertisers, dealers, and partners who remain confident in our commitment to public service. We're glad that whatever your reading style, you have made us a part of your life.

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News that makes a difference

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what's the big idea?

Photograph from The Cultural Center of the Philippines and The American Historical Collection.

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# 3 oil firms raise gasoline, diesel prices

By Ronnel W. Domingo

**FLYING V today raised prices of gasoline by 65 centavos a liter and of diesel by 43 centavos a liter while Total Philippines and Eastern Petroleum Corp. jacked up their prices by 60 centavos and 40 centavos, respectively.**

Total also raised the price of kerosene by 40 centavos a liter.

Flying V officials said the increase was long overdue, but added that the changes were effected on delivery price to dealers, who had the say on when to reflect these on their pumps.

Total Philippines said the Mean of Platts Singapore—the benchmark for finished products—price for unleaded gasoline went up by $8 a barrel between May and August.

Total added that during the same period, regional prices of diesel shot up by $3 a barrel while those for kerosene went up by $4 a barrel.

"These changes translate to an increase of P2.40 per liter in local prices, but we are considering what the market can tolerate," Total said.

Fernando Martinez, chair of Eastern Petroleum, said average prices of crude oil had gone up by $3 a barrel since June, which means an increase of P1 per liter in pump prices.

Asked why the independent players were moving ahead of the oil majors, which was unusual, Martinez said holding off was too much of burden on their finances.

"The impact of higher prices in the regional market was worsened with the peso hitting about 55 to the dollar because of the Oakwood crisis," the official added.

He was referring to the crisis when disgruntled junior military officers holed up in a high-end apartment in Makati two weeks ago.

Government monitoring showed that average Dubai crude prices went up by $1.21 a barrel to $26.72 in July from $25.52 in June.

The peso weakened by 25 centavos to 53.77 to $1 in July from 53.52 in June.

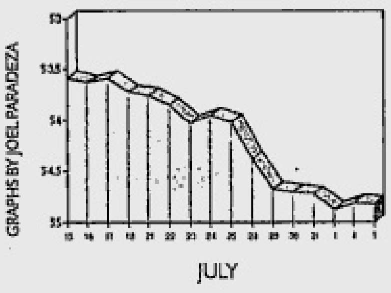
Last week, Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. said increases in world prices of oil have been sustained in the last two months due to low inventories and uncertainty about the timing and volume of Iraqi oil going back to the world market.

But local oil prices did not go up in June despite the continued upward trend in world prices, Perez noted.

The last time pump prices changed was in May, with three rounds of reductions.

## INDICATORS

### CURRENCIES



**PESO-DOLLAR RATE**

P 54.675 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., Aug. 7, 2003

¥ 120.11 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., Aug. 7, 2003

GOLD: $350.20-350.40

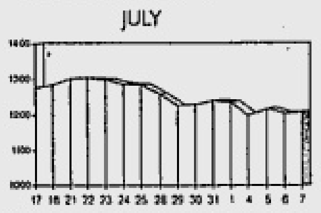
per ounce Hong Kong, Aug.7, 2003

### STOCK MARKET

## Stocks end up on bargain hunting

**PSE COMPOSITE INDEX**

JULY



(See stock market report on Page B2)

STOCKS ended slightly higher yesterday on bargain hunting on select blue chips, led by property leader Ayala Land.

The main index ended 2.93 points higher at 1,207.25 points. Turnover reached P366.7 million, slightly up from Wednesday's P347.6 million.

Analysts said, however, market sentiment remained bearish, with players cautious of political developments and the peace and order situation following last month's mutiny of about 300 elite soldiers and the deadly hotel blast in Indonesia this week.

"The bombing in Indonesia and the coup jitters have kept investors sidelined," said BPI Securities stocks analyst Roberto Cano. "Enthusiasm in the market is limited by the existing security concerns."

The market may still test the 1,200 support level in the next session, given the lingering security concerns, AB Capital economic analyst Jose Vistan said.

*Reuters*

# Asean ministers adopt road map for financial integration

SOUTHEAST Asian finance ministers agreed yesterday to open up their capital markets further and ease money flows as part of a road map toward a single market in the region.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) ministers at their annual talks here agreed on a "road map for integration in financial cooperation" that would serve as a cornerstone for the Asean common market by 2020, an official said.

It comprises broad steps to develop, liberalize and integrate the region's capital markets and financial services to bring about "a free flow of goods, services and investments and a freer flow of capital," according to a joint statement to be issued at the end of the two-day meeting yesterday.

The road map is to be tabled for approval by Asean leaders at their annual summit in Bali in October, Asean Secretary General Ong Keng Yong said.

Asean aims to achieve a single market—dubbed the "Asean economic community"—of 530 million people in 17 years. The group comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Burma, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The ministers agreed that member states be "more transparent and systematic" in relaxing restrictions on capital movements as part of regional financial integration efforts, the draft said.

At the same time, they would put in place "prudential measures in each step of their capital account liberalization process, where necessary, to minimize the possible adverse impacts of the reversal of capital, particularly short-term, flows."

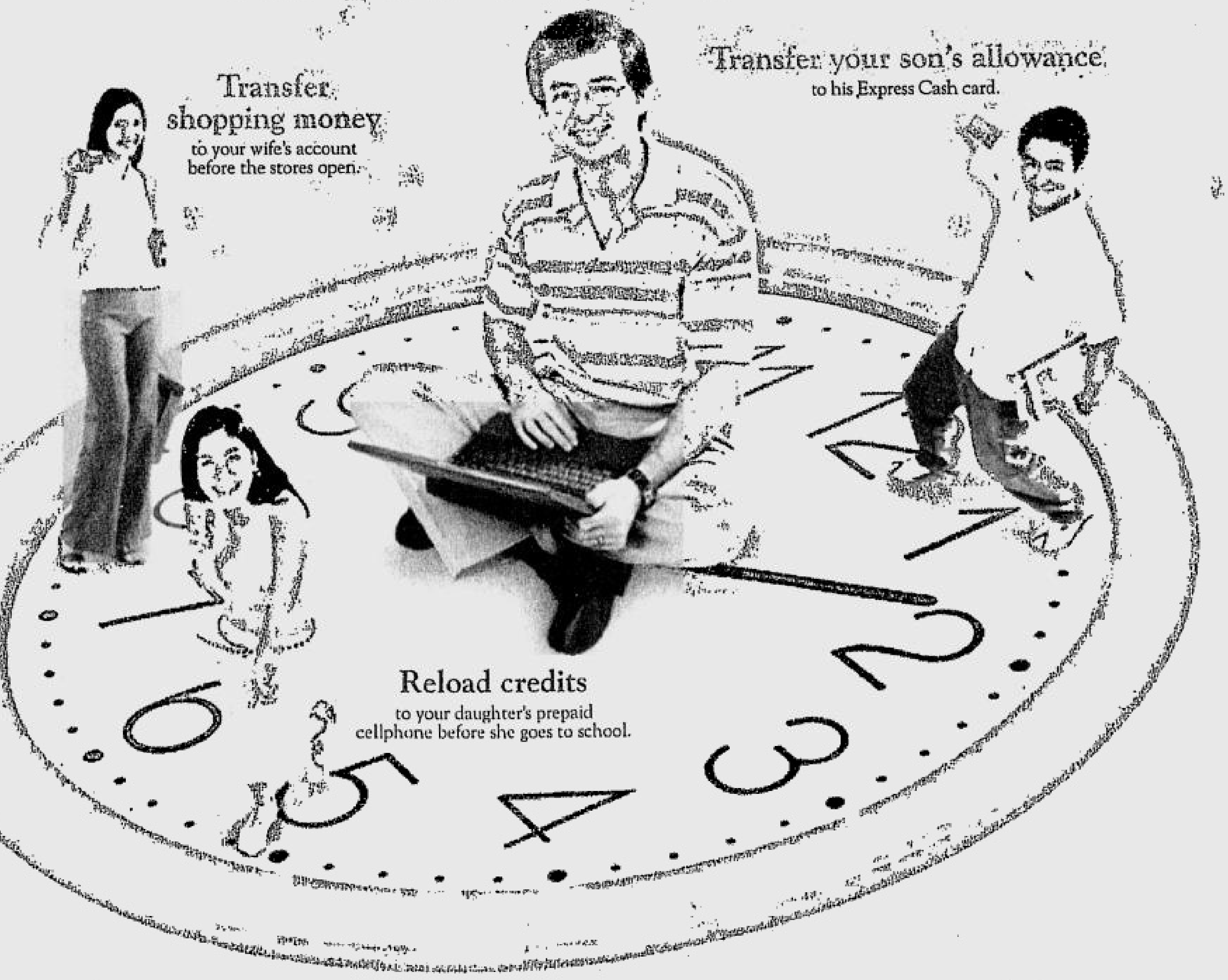
Much of Southeast Asia's financial sector continues to recovers from a financial crisis in 1997 which plunged the region into its worst recession in decades.

The crisis was sparked by a currency meltdown, first in Thailand and then spreading across Asia, as excessive speculation and volatile short-term capital flows undid much of the economic progress made over many years.

As the level of development in the financial fronts of member states is not the same—with Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines ahead of the others—capital market integration will be undertaken in two phases, officials said.

Over the next five years, it will be mostly confined to "capacity building"—beefing up the legal and regulatory framework, market infrastructure for trading, clearance and settlement procedures,

ASEAN/B2



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# Ladies' choice

## COCKTALES

*Victor C. Agustin*

POOR Lito Camacho!

It looks like his continued tenure as finance secretary are in the hands of women.

Like a good soldier, Camacho wants to stay on and finish the job but his wife, Kim, apparently has had enough.

At the Senate, if you believe the pro-Camacho grapevine, Tessie Aquino-Oreta and honorary woman John Osmeña are still hot on filing a plunder case and implicate Camacho in the RCBC-Code NGO bond deal.

Within the Department of Finance itself, three undersecretaries have signified their intention to leave if Camacho would be replaced, especially if the incoming secretary is an outsider or a politician. These three are Eric Recto, Inocencio Ferrer, and Grace Pulido-Tan.

According to the grapevine, the career staff is proposing that either Pulido-Tan, who as a tax expert oversees the domestic revenue functions, or the most senior DOF undersecretary, Juanita Amatong, be named acting secretary until 2004 in the event of a Camacho resignation.

That way, the impact that a wholesale departure of the DOF team would send to the international financial community would be minimized.

The smart money now is on Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri as the next DOF secretary should the speculated Camacho departure finally happen.

According to the grapevine, GMA is leaning toward Neri although Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo has found a new gem in Pulido-Tan, a CPA-lawyer and ex-SGV partner. Other names that had been forwarded to Malacañang for consideration are former Finance Undersecretary Romeo Bernardo, now a fat cat with Globe and BPI, and former Neda director general Cayetano Paderanga Jr.

Camacho was scheduled to hold a press conference at 5 p.m. yesterday, too late to make it to the deadline of this column, where he would presumably announce an end to all these speculations.

But in the end, it is really up to another lady, the President, whether Camacho would stay on or not.

### Magdalo factions

WITH Malacañang having successfully stared down the military mutineers, the Magdalo rebels and their civilian allies who have not yet been accounted for have splintered into various cells all over Metro Manila to escape detection, according to Isafp deep penetration agent, S. Cuttle Butt.

These Magdalo factions and their respective leaders, who have managed to meld themselves with the population, have been given the following code names:

- Magtago faction - Gregorio Honasan
- Magtakip faction - Juan Ponce Enrile
- Magbayad faction - Joseph Estrada
- Magkano faction - Fence-sitting AFP officers
- Maghakot faction - Guardians
- Magdawit faction - Joey Lina
- Magturo faction - Magdalo officers who turned state witness
- Mag-deny faction - Ramon Cardenas/Laarni Enriquez
- Magdalena faction - John Osmeña/Ping Lacson
- Magdakdak faction - Senate/House investigating committees
- Maggalaiti faction - Didagen Dilangalen
- Magliko faction - Celso Lobregat/Rolex Suplico
- Magpalusot faction - Leftwing lawyer Argee Guevarra, on his statement that the Oakwood mutineers have to be freed and/or be made to appear before Congress since they are supposed to be vital witnesses to the continuing crime of military corruption
- Magsikwat faction - Magdalo detachment in Rustan's
- Magpatong faction - Arms dealer Rosario "Cherry" Ong
- Magrosaryo faction - Corazon Aquino/Jaime Cardinal Sin
- Magtaray faction - Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
- Magsisi faction - Magdalo soldiers who gave up before the 5 p.m. deadline
- Magsisihan faction - Makati Business Club/PCCI
- Mag-sorry faction - MBC chair Ricardo Romulo
- Magpakain faction - Richard Gordon/Intercon Hotel
- Maglinis faction - Oakwood janitors
- Magkalat faction - A number of broadcast journalists who we will not name out of professional courtesy (within this group is another splinter, the Mag-asar faction, where Cocktales belongs)
- Magtiis (the biggest of them all) faction - The Filipino People

### Heard through the grapevine

FORMER Finex president Rosario Bernaldo was picked up by the police in her Salcedo Village office Tuesday afternoon on the strength of three warrants of arrest corresponding to the libel complaints filed by Finex officers Grace Tiongco, George Tan, and now departed Gilbert Aquitania.

Bernaldo managed to stay out of the Makati jail that night by posting bail at the police station.

The libel cases had apparently been filed in answer to a libel complaint earlier lodged by Bernaldo against the three.

Unlike Bernaldo, the three managed to escape the indignity of having been actually picked up by the police by filing the bail before the arrest warrants could be served.

*(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)*

# JG Summit to help fund Digitel expansion

**By Elena R. Torrijos**

PUBLICLY listed JG Summit Holdings Inc., the flagship holding company of the Gokongwei family, plans to partly finance the planned outlay of $180 million by subsidiary Digital Telecommunications Philippines Inc. for the expansion of the latter's wireless network.

"We (at Digitel) already spent approximately $220 million in capex and we have programmed about $180 million over the next 18-month period to expand and improve our network," JG Summit president and Digitel director Lance Gokongwei told reporters Wednesday afternoon following the holding company's annual stockholders' meeting.

JG Summit chair James Go said the funds would be used to put up an additional 200 cell sites to support Digitel's wireless phone service.

Gokongwei said that the company was considering supporting the $180-million capex program of Digitel through a convertible bond issue though this would still have to be finalized.

He added that JG Summit had already sourced financing for the $180 million given that the company had raised $300 million in 5-year senior notes through a eurobond offering.

Digitel stockholders earlier approved the company's plan to issue $200 million in convertible bonds to fund network expansion.

A well-placed source said that out of the $200 million in convertible bonds, about $100 million would be to allow the conversion of $100 million earlier advanced by JG Summit to Digitel into the new issue.

At the stockholders' meeting, Gokongwei affirmed the JG Summit group's commitment to break into the highly lucrative wireless telecommunications business.

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# Gov't exceeds spending target

**By Clarissa S. Batino**

THE DEPARTMENT of Budget and Management yesterday said the government exceeded its spending ceiling in July by P3 billion as it accelerated disbursements for account payables starting last month, but officials assured the excess spending would not push last month's deficit beyond the P17.13-billion ceiling.

Budget officials declined to say what last month's spending target was but expenditures are usually placed at P55-P60 billion a month.

"For July, we exceeded spending after an additional P6.2-billion release for account payables. We paid almost four months of account payables in July to bring down our lag to only two months," said Budget Undersecretary Laura Pascua in an interview.

Pascua said that in the first six months, the government spent P1.8 billion less than the target so this should partly offset the overspending in July.

"Even with the excess spending in July, we would likely be below the P17-billion deficit target for the month," a senior government official said.

The overspending in July did not come as a surprise after officials repeatedly said that spending would accelerate after June to settle obligations that remained unpaid in the first semester.

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# 5 IPPs get ERC clearance

**By Ronnel W. Domingo**

THE ENERGY Regulatory Commission yesterday announced it had issued certificates of compliance to five independent power producers with generating capacities totaling 100 megawatts.

ERC Chair Manuel Sanchez said the five COCs awarded last Aug. 6 brought to 16 the number of IPPs that had secured the document allowing commercial operation.

The Electric Power Industry Reform Act requires IPPs to secure the certificate from the ERC.

The five IPPs included:

- Trans-Asia Power Generation Corp., which operates and maintains a 52-MW oil-fired plant in Norzagaray, Bulacan;
- electronics firm Ibiden Philippines, with a 12.63-MW self-generating facility (SGF) at First Philipine Industrial Park in Batangas;
- NEC Toppan Circuit Solutions Philippines, with a 10.72-MW SGF at the Light Industry Science Park II in Laguna.
- Philips Semiconductors, with a 5.46-MW SGF at the Special Export Processing Zone in Laguna, and
- Mindanao Energy Systems, with an 18.9-MW diesel power plant located in Cagayan de Oro City.

# Asean ministers . . .

From page B1

investor education and adoption of international standards.

After that, members will move fully into "market integration," including setting up a common regulatory and legal framework, removal of restrictions on cross-border investment, adoption of common accounting methodologies and standards, and linkages in payment and settlement systems.

"With such a road map, we at least have an action program for ourselves and we know what to do according to a time frame," Ong said.

"If some countries are not ready to go ahead, we can hear each other out but continue working towards the goal." *AFP*

## INTEREST RATES

August 7, 2003-
MART1 Rates

| Benchmark Interest Rates | MART1 7-Aug-03 | MART1 6-Aug-03 |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Month | 6.1554 | 6.1917 |
| 3 Months | 6.005 | 6.0233 |
| 6 Months | 6.9967 | 7.0117 |
| 1 Year | 7.87 | 8.1125 |
| 2 Years | 9.3617 | 9.535 |
| 3 Years | 9.9214 | 10.1417 |
| 4 Years | 10.3946 | 10.45 |
| 5 Years | 10.65 | 10.7767 |
| 7 Years | 11.2263 | 11.3571 |
| 10 Years | 11.82 | 11.9067 |
| 20 Years | 12.0367 | 12.1067 |
| 25 Years | 12.4133 | 12.435 |

SOURCE: MART/BLOOMBERG

## PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Aug. 7, 2003)

| STOCKS | OPEN | HIGH | LOW | CLOSE | VOLUME |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES | | | | | |
| BANKS | | | | | |
| Banco de Oro Univ. Bank | 17.75 | 18 | 17.75 | 17.75 | 189,300 |
| Bank of the Phil. Islands | 45 | 45.5 | 45 | 45.5 | 232,900 |
| China Banking Corp. | 660 | 660 | 660 | 660 | 1,000 |
| Equitable PCI Bank Inc. | 33.5 | 34 | 33.5 | 34 | 94,000 |
| Metropolitan Bank & Trust | 29.5 | 29.5 | 29 | 29.5 | 98,400 |
| Philippine National Bank | 24.25 | 24.5 | 24.25 | 24.25 | 21,300 |
| Rizal Comm. Banking Corp. | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 20,200 |
| Security Bank Corp. | 17.75 | 18 | 17.75 | 18 | 134,000 |
| Union Bank of the Phil. | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 27,000 |
| FINANCIAL SERVICES | | | | | |
| Bankard Inc. | 1.38 | 1.38 | 1.38 | 1.38 | 60,000 |
| First Metro Invest. Corp. | 190 | 190 | 190 | 190 | 80 |
| PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc. | 1.28 | 1.28 | 1.2 | 1.24 | 209,000 |
| Sun Life Financial Inc. | 1130 | 1130 | 1130 | 1130 | 190 |
| COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL | | | | | |
| COMMUNICATION | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. | 19.5 | 19.75 | 19.5 | 19.75 | 3,300 |
| Digital Telecom Phils Inc. | 0.63 | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 1,910,000 |
| Globe Telecom Inc. | 630 | 635 | 630 | 630 | 22,290 |
| Island Info and Tech Inc. | 0.055 | 0.055 | 0.055 | 0.055 | 2,700,000 |
| ISM Communications Corp. | 0.047 | 0.047 | 0.045 | 0.046 | 22,300,000 |
| Pilipino Tel. Corp. | 0.5 | 0.52 | 0.5 | 0.52 | 1,290,000 |
| Phil. Long Dis Tel Co. | 497.5 | 497.5 | 482.5 | 492.5 | 264,580 |
| Philweb Corp. | 0.014 | 0.014 | 0.013 | 0.013 | 13,300,000 |
| POWER & ENERGY | | | | | |
| Manila Electric Co. A | 10.75 | 11.25 | 10.75 | 11.25 | 162,200 |
| Manila Electric Co. B | 16.75 | 17.5 | 16.75 | 17.5 | 306,700 |
| Petron Corp. | 1.96 | 1.98 | 1.96 | 1.98 | 490,000 |
| Salcon Power Corp. | 1.64 | 1.64 | 1.64 | 1.64 | 23,000 |
| TRANSPORTATION SERVICES | | | | | |
| Asian Terminals Inc. | 1.42 | 1.42 | 1.42 | 1.42 | 57,000 |
| Int'l Container Term'l Sv | 2.7 | 2.75 | 2.7 | 2.75 | 296,000 |
| Keppel Phils. Marine Inc. | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 150,000 |
| CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS | | | | | |
| Republic Glass Hldg. Corp. | 1.58 | 1.58 | 1.58 | 1.58 | 50,000 |
| Union Cement Corp. | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 10,000 |
| FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO | | | | | |
| Jollibee Foods Corp. | 17.25 | 17.25 | 17.25 | 17.25 | 43,800 |
| RFM Corp. | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.74 | 0.74 | 110,000 |
| San Miguel Corp. A | 51.5 | 52 | 51.5 | 52 | 92,900 |
| San Miguel Corp. B | 61.5 | 62 | 61.5 | 62 | 130,400 |
| Vitarich Corp. | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 120,000 |
| HOLDING FIRMS | | | | | |
| Abacus Con Res & Hdg A | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 50,000 |
| Ayala Corp. | 4.45 | 4.5 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 6,335,000 |
| Aboitiz Equity Ventures | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 10,000 |
| Ajo.Net Holdings Inc. | 0.037 | 0.037 | 0.035 | 0.037 | 3,700,000 |
| A. Soriano Corp. | 0.74 | 0.74 | 0.74 | 0.74 | 50,000 |
| APC Group Inc. | 0.095 | 0.095 | 0.095 | 0.095 | 400,000 |
| Alcorn Gold Res. Corp. | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 4,000,000 |
| Anglo Phil Holdings Corp. | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 1,500,000 |
| ATN Holdings Inc. | 1.74 | 1.8 | 1.64 | 1.78 | 248,000 |
| Benpres Holdings Corp. | 0.55 | 0.63 | 0.55 | 0.61 | 20,010,000 |
| Basic Consolidated Inc. | 0.13 | 0.15 | 0.13 | 0.14 | 2,530,000 |
| Crown Equities Inc. | 0.185 | 0.185 | 0.185 | 0.185 | 770,000 |
| Southeast Asian Cement | 0.085 | 0.105 | 0.085 | 0.105 | 5,300,000 |
| DMCI Holdings Inc. | 0.3 | 0.33 | 0.3 | 0.32 | 5,210,000 |
| Ever-Gotesco Resources | 0.043 | 0.043 | 0.043 | 0.043 | 100,000 |
| Filinvest Dev. Corp. | 1.04 | 1.06 | 1.04 | 1.06 | 177,000 |
| First Phil Hldgs Corp. | 14.75 | 15.25 | 14.75 | 15.25 | 729,500 |
| Forum Pacific Inc. | 0.28 | 0.29 | 0.28 | 0.29 | 380,000 |
| Global Equities Inc. | 0.12 | 0.14 | 0.11 | 0.13 | 7,430,000 |
| Ionics Inc. | 1.4 | 1.48 | 1.4 | 1.46 | 267,000 |
| J.G. Summit Holdings Inc. | 1.78 | 1.78 | 1.76 | 1.76 | 30,000 |
| Macroasia Corp. | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 30,000 |
| Megaworld Corp. | 0.72 | 0.73 | 0.72 | 0.73 | 330,000 |
| Metro Pacific Corp. | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.25 | 0.26 | 4,140,000 |
| Music Corp. | 0.36 | 0.38 | 0.36 | 0.38 | 1,230,000 |
| Prime Orion Phils. Inc. | 0.24 | 0.3 | 0.24 | 0.28 | 10,350,000 |
| East Asia Power Res. Corp. | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 2,680,000 |
| Solid Group Inc. | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 90,000 |
| Uniwide Holdings Inc. | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 14,700,000 |
| Wellex Industries Inc. | 0.52 | 0.54 | 0.52 | 0.53 | 200,000 |
| Waterfront Phils. Inc. | 0.38 | 0.39 | 0.38 | 0.39 | 1,460,000 |
| MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING | | | | | |
| Picop Resources Inc. | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 1,300,000 |
| SPI Technologies Inc. | 16.5 | 16.5 | 16.25 | 16.25 | 955,500 |
| HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES | | | | | |
| Leisure & Resorts Corp. | 0.48 | 0.48 | 0.47 | 0.47 | 40,000 |
| BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr) | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 8,100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series T | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series X | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 1,200 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 1,600 |
| PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 1,500 |
| PROPERTY | | | | | |
| Ayala Land Inc. | 6.3 | 6.4 | 6.2 | 6.4 | 2,374,000 |
| C & P Homes Inc. | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 540,000 |
| Cyber Bay Corp. | 0.215 | 0.235 | 0.21 | 0.225 | 16,850,000 |
| Empire East Land Inc. | 0.235 | 0.235 | 0.235 | 0.235 | 2,700,000 |
| Filinvest Land Inc. | 0.96 | 0.96 | 0.95 | 0.95 | 9,850,000 |
| Highlands Prime Inc. | 2.14 | 2.14 | 2.14 | 2.14 | 200,000 |
| Kuok Phil. Properties | 0.21 | 0.25 | 0.21 | 0.235 | 10,780,000 |
| SM Development Corp. | 1.14 | 1.14 | 1.14 | 1.14 | 23,000 |
| SM Prime Holdings Inc. | 5.9 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 9,834,000 |
| MINING | | | | | |
| Apex Mining Co. Inc. A | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 590,000 |
| Abra Mining & Industrial | 0.0036 | 0.0036 | 0.0036 | 0.0036 | 2,000,000 |
| Benguet Corp. B | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 9,000 |
| Manila Mining Corp. B | 0.0036 | 0.0036 | 0.0036 | 0.0036 | 8,000,000 |
| Omico Corp. | 0.0032 | 0.0034 | 0.0032 | 0.0034 | 16,000,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. A | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 5,570,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. B | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.28 | 0.28 | 1,350,000 |
| OIL | | | | | |
| Oriental Pet. & Min. A | 0.0032 | 0.0034 | 0.0032 | 0.0034 | 180,000,000 |
| The Philodrill Corp. A | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 20,000 |
| Pacifica | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.011 | 1,000,000 |
| Sinophil Corp. | 0.034 | 0.035 | 0.034 | 0.035 | 3,200,000 |
| Vulcan Ind'l | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 380,000 |

## DISCLOSURES

ANGEL Ong was appointed chief operating officer of **Benpres Holdings Corp.** while Jorge Lichauco was appointed chief finance officer.

* * *

ELECTED directors of **Fil-Estate Land Inc.** were Robert John Sobrepeña, Ferdinand Santos, Noel Carino, Joel Carino, Alice Odchigue-Bondoc, Enrique Sobrepeña Jr. and Rafael Evangelista.

* * *

ELECTED directors of **JG Summit Holdings Inc.** were John Gokongwei Jr., James Go, Lance Gokongwei, Johnson Robert Go Sr., Lily Ngochua, Patrick Henry Go, Ignacio Gotao, Gabriel Singson, Ricardo Romulo, Cornelio Peralta and Jose Pardo. The company declared a cash dividend of P0.03 per share in favor of stockholders of record as of Sept. 5 and will be payable on Sept. 30.

* * *

**JARDINE Davies Inc.** moved its annual stockholders' meeting from Aug. 22 to Aug. 29.

* * *

**DIVERSIFIED Financial Network Inc.** will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Aug. 28, 10 a.m. at the 3/F of HatchAsia GlobalCity Center, Taguig. Only stockholders of record as of July 15 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

**AYALA Corp.** declared a regular cash dividend of P0.03 per share in favor of stockholders of record as of July 31 and will be payable on Aug. 21.

* * *

EVA Vicencion-Rodriguez was appointed assistant corporate secretary and compliance officer of **Victorias Milling Co. Inc.** Carolina Diaz was appointed corporate information officer.

* * *

**ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.** will hold its investors' and analysts' briefing on Aug. 13, 4 p.m. at the 14/F of ELJ Communications Center, Eugenio Lopez Jr. St., Quezon City. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

## CURRENCIES

| August 7, 2003<br>Country | Unit | Euro Equivalent | Dollar Equivalent | Peso Equivalent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United States | Dollar | 0.881679 | 1.000000 | 54.786000 |
| Japan | Yen | 0.007336 | 0.008321 | 0.455900 |
| United Kingdom | Pound | 1.419326 | 1.609800 | 88.194500 |
| Hongkong | Dollar | 0.113047 | 0.128218 | 7.024600 |
| Switzerland | Franc | 0.651840 | 0.739317 | 40.504200 |
| Canada | Dollar | 0.628066 | 0.712352 | 39.026900 |
| Singapore | Dollar | 0.500045 | 0.567151 | 31.071900 |
| Australia | Dollar | 0.570888 | 0.647501 | 35.474000 |
| Bahrain | Dinar* | 2.338795 | 2.652661 | 145.328700 |
| Saudi Arabia | Rial | 0.235108 | 0.266660 | 14.609200 |
| Brunei | Dollar | 0.498631 | 0.565547 | 30.984100 |
| Indonesia | Rupiah | 0.000102 | 0.000116 | 0.006400 |
| Thailand | Baht | 0.020978 | 0.023793 | 1.303500 |
| UAE | Dirham | 0.240049 | 0.272264 | 14.916300 |
| Euro | Euro | 1.000000 | 1.134200 | 62.138300 |
| Argentina | Peso | 0.300914 | 0.341297 | 18.698300 |
| Brazil | Real | 0.290026 | 0.328947 | 18.021700 |
| Denmark | Kroner | 0.134492 | 0.152541 | 8.357100 |
| India | Rupee | 0.019188 | 0.021763 | 1.192300 |
| Malaysia | Ringgit | 0.232052 | 0.263193 | 14.419300 |
| Mexico | New Peso | 0.082361 | 0.093414 | 5.117800 |
| New Zealand | Dollar | 0.512425 | 0.581193 | 31.841200 |
| Norway | Kroner | 0.122306 | 0.138719 | 7.599900 |
| Pakistan | Rupee | 0.015312 | 0.017367 | 0.951500 |
| South Africa | Rand | 0.120282 | 0.136424 | 7.474100 |
| Korea | Won | 0.000744 | 0.000844 | 0.046200 |
| Sweden | Kroner | 0.108486 | 0.123045 | 6.741100 |
| Syria | Pound | 0.020993 | 0.023810 | 1.304500 |
| Taiwan | Nt Dollar | 0.025682 | 0.029129 | 1.595900 |
| Venezuela | Bolivar | 0.000553 | 0.000627 | 0.034400 |

# SARS crimps San Miguel's 1st half profit

SAN Miguel Corp., Southeast Asia's largest food and beverage group, yesterday said its first-half net income rose just 2 percent from year-ago level due to the impact of SARS on overseas operations.

Its net income of P3.05 billion in January to June came in lower than market expectations. The group said it had consolidated revenues of P72.16 billion in the first half, a 9-percent rise from a year earlier.

ING Securities senior analyst for the Philippines Gilbert Lopez said that many analysts would likely downgrade their earnings forecasts for SMC this year given the lower-than-expected performance of the conglomerate in the first half.

The company said it enjoyed higher sales of beer at home and at its packaging operations but that Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) hammered beer consumption in China and Hong Kong, where it operates four breweries.

The group also runs a glass plant, a bottle crown line and a plastics plant in China.

San Miguel attributed the profit rise to lower interest expenses from a "substantial reduction in debt levels" but said it expected a far better showing in the second half.

It did not give a breakdown of its performance in the second quarter, but its net profit of P1.34 billion in the first quarter means it had a profit of about P1.71 billion in the three months ending June 30.

Analysts surveyed had expected San Miguel—the dominant player in the Philippine beer, soft drink, liquor and food sectors—to report a net profit of P1.9 billion to P2.5 billion in April to June.

"The company's profit performance was tempered as significant earnings dilution occurred due to the impact of SARS on beer volumes in Hong Kong and South China and the protracted weakness in industry poultry prices," it said in a statement.

"With the SARS outbreak now contained worldwide, San Miguel expects its international beer market conditions to improve considerably in the second half of 2003." For poultry, it said recent industry-wide supply adjustments had "already resulted in improvements in selling prices."

Domestic beer sales volumes rose 11 percent in the first half from a year earlier, with its packaging operations seeing an 18-percent gain.

Japan's Kirin Brewery Co. Ltd. owns 15 percent of San Miguel.

Revenues of San Miguel—which sells nine of every 10 bottles consumed by Filipino beer drinkers— account for about 4 percent of the Philippine gross national product and around 5 percent of the state's total tax collection.

Beer accounts for roughly a fifth of the group's total revenues. *Reuters, with a report from Elena R. Torrijos*

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# Gov't's 7-month debt service requirement down by ₱6.7B

MODEST interest rates on borrowings in the first seven months of the year enabled the government to save P6.74 billion in debt servicing, exceeding the P4-billion target for the year, official data showed.

For this year, the government had set aside P230.7 billion for interest payments. However, it was hoping the amount could be reduced given the favorable domestic rates.

Savings from interest payments are often used to offset increases in spending although in the first seven months, expenditures have remained on track, according to the budget department.

Domestic interest rates were volatile in the first quarter due to external and internal developments.

By the second quarter, however, the rates started to soften until this week's auction when banks started asking for higher rates on their placements in treasury bills following the July 27 failed mutiny.

From more than 7 percent in the first quarter, the 91-day rate had dropped to 5.168 percent in July 21. Last Monday, the market tried to bid the rates up by more than 60 basis points.

The government said it would not allow interest rates to go up as the fiscal sector continued to consolidate. *Clarissa S. Batino*

**PRULINK** | **PRU LIFE U.K.**

| Investments of Variable Life Insurance Contracts | Current Week August 05, 2003 | Last Week July 29, 2003 |
|---|---|---|
| Bond Fund - Peso | 1.07459 | 1.10100 |
| Managed Fund - Peso | 1.08288 | 1.10489 |
| Bond Fund - US Dollar | 0.96080 | 0.99300 |

* Note These investments of variable life insurance contracts are not mutual funds * Ie insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission

### CGU INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE plc
(Philippine Branch)
SYPNOSIS OF ANNUAL STATEMENT
*A. Philippine Business
as of December 31, 2001

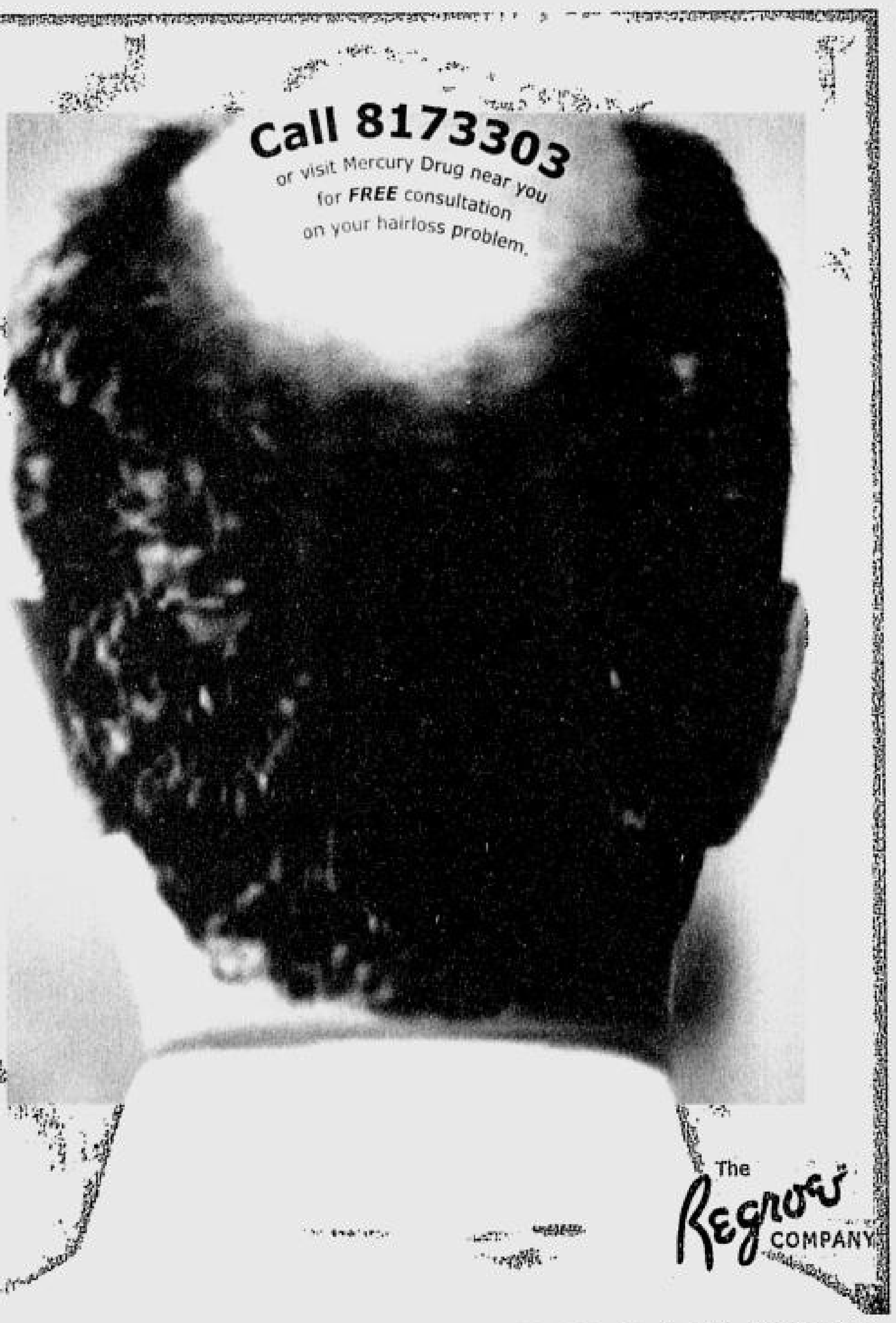
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ADMITTED ASSETS** | | |
| Bonds | Ps. | 125,000,000.00 |
| Investment in Treasury Bills | | 111,300,000.00 |
| Stocks | | 22,175,837.14 |
| Security Fund | | 66,013.00 |
| Other Investments | | 15,700,000.00 |
| Other Loans | | 3,139,138.72 |
| Cash in Office and in Banks | | 48,342,387.55 |
| Premiums Receivable | | 118,520,637.00 |
| Premiums Due from Ceding Companies | | 4,525,736.47 |
| Premiums Reserve Witheld by Ceding Companies | | 2,276,577.00 |
| Reinsurance Recoverable on Losses | | 58,788,145.33 |
| EDP Equipment | | 3,403,500.45 |
| Accrued Investment Income | | 4,438,398.80 |
| Total Admitted Assets | Ps. | 517,676,371.46 |
| **LIABILITIES** | | |
| Losses and Claims Payable | Ps. | 129,319,592.00 |
| Reserved for Unearned Premiums | | 120,210,983.00 |
| Catastrophe Loss Reserve | | 12,096,994.10 |
| Premiums Due to Reinsurers | | 146,960,606.00 |
| Funds Held for Reinsurers | | 21,819,006.00 |
| Taxes Payable | | 16,486,651.77 |
| Commission Payable | | 6,571,408.00 |
| Accrued Expenses | | 18,173,932.00 |
| Unearned Bond Discount | | 5,853,158.00 |
| Other Liabilities | | 11,414,637.00 |
| Total Liabilities | Ps. | 488,906,967.87 |
| **TRUSTEED SURPLUS** | | |
| Statutory Deposit | 50,000,000.00 | |
| Home Office Account | (112,921,891.41) | |
| Home Office Inward Remittances | 91,691,295.00 | |
| Total Trusteed Surplus | | 28,769,403.59 |
| Total Liabilities and Trusteed Suplus | Ps | 517,676,371.46 |

B. Worldwide Business
As of December 31, 2001

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Assets | £ 188,234,000,000.00 |
| Total Liabilities | 174,554,000,000.00 |
| Trusteed Surplus | 13,680,000,000.00 |
| Total Liabilities and Trusteed Surplus | £ 188,234,000,000.00 |

*(Capital Impairment and Margin of Solvency Deficiency subsequently covered up in full)

*(This sypnosis, prepared from the 2001 Annual Statement, approved by the Insurance Commisioner, is published pursuant to Section 225 of the Insurance Code of 1978, as amended.)



mercury drug

| August 13-18 | August 20-25 | August 27-Sept. 01 | September 03-07 | September 10-15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Festival Mall-Alabang | Citimall-Daman | Ayala Center Makati-Glorietta | Festival Mall-Alabang | V Luna-East Avenue |
| Jaka Plaza-Parañaque | Ever Gotesco-Commonwealth | Shangri-La Plaza Mandaluyong | Jaka Plaza-Parañaque | Citimall-Daman |
| Harrison Plaza-Manila | Ever Gotesco-Kalookan | Mayflower Plaza-Mandaluyong | Harrison Plaza-Manila | Ever Gotesco-Commonwealth |
| Robinson's Place-Ermita | Greenhills-Shoppesville | Robinson's Galleria-Ortigas | Robinson's Place-Ermita | Ever Gotesco-Kalookan |

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## RA No. 3844

# 40 Years of Agrarian Reform: Achieving a Vision for the Filipino Farmers

RA 3844

FORTY YEARS AGO TODAY, a beacon of hope shone on the Filipino farmers who, for centuries, have endured the tyranny of landlessness and poverty.

President Diosdado Macapagal, late father of incumbent President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, enacted Republic Act No. 3844, also known as the Agricultural Land Reform Code of 1963, to "create a truly viable social and economic structure in agriculture conducive to greater productivity and higher farm incomes."

At that time, landed interests were so powerful that they could, by the snap of a finger, influence the outcome of politics and the major policy decision making of government.

But Cong Dadong, the poor boy from Lubao, Pampanga who rose to become a brilliant lawyer, legislator, and president, had a strong vision for the farmers.

He wanted a "dignified existence for the small farmers, free from pernicious institutional restraints and practices."

He wanted the small farmers to be "more independent, self-reliant, and responsible citizens, and a source of genuine strength in our democratic society."

He signed into law the Agricultural Land Reform Code, a landmark legislation, and launched it in a large tenanted farm in Plaridel, Bulacan, to set the grounds for establishing owner-cultivatorship and the economic family-size farm as the basis of Philippine agriculture.

He declared the abolition of tenancy, and by doing so marked himself in history as the first president to formally put an end to an oppressive system that had long kept the farmers in bondage to the soil.

The powerful landed interests in Congress moved to withhold funds for Cong Dadong's program, nipping it in the bud.

But it failed to extinguish the beacon of hope that he lit for the farmers. The spirit of Cong Dadong's vision endured.

This spirit guided the crafting of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law (CARL) in 1987, and the subsequent implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) in 1988.

Today, despite formidable odds such as lack of funding, CARP has moved considerably forward and will no longer be derailed.

CARP had distributed some 5.8 million hectares of land to some 3.3 million farmers who now are gearing up to become, as Cong Dadong envisioned, "a source of genuine strength in our democratic society."

Today, the agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) in the Agrarian Reform Communities (ARCs) have comparatively higher income than before.

In many ARCs, the ARBs have had bigger harvests, have diversified into more crops other than rice and corn, and have raised more farm animals for additional income.

Increased income has enabled them to buy household appliances, renovate their houses, and send their children to school.

The recent directive of Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to use P30B of the so-called "Marcos money" for agrarian reform, and nothing less, is karmaic in a sense that it brings her father's vision into a full cycle.

While these gains tell much about CARP, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) is aware that a lot more has to be done. After all, the bulk of CARP work starts after the lands have been distributed.

"We need to empower the ARBs to be highly skilled, productive, and globally competitive," said DAR Sec. Roberto "Obet" M. Pagdanganan.

"We need to transform them into real agricultural entrepreneurs with high levels of technological, technical, managerial, and marketing expertise, and earning incomes way above the national average.

We want our ARBs to feel the joy, not the burden, of production: the excitement, not the drudgery, of business enterprise.

We want to have a modern agriculture in which our ARBs are not merely forced by the circumstances of poverty to produce the food needs of our society.

We want our ARBs to have the options, borne out of their own free will, to choose the technology they would use, the crops they would raise, and the market where they would sell their produce to get the highest returns."

DAR has implemented a wide variety of initiatives to improve the agricultural productivity of ARBs and to give them skills necessary for enterprise management.

In this endeavor, DAR has been assisted by other CARP-implementing agencies, foreign donor community, local government units, civil society, and the private sector.

The administration of President Arroyo, through DAR Secretary Roberto M. Pagdanganan, aims to lay the groundwork for attaining a level of impact that would erase, once and for all, the lingering doubts about the efficacy of agrarian reform as a tool to fight poverty and promote rural development.

DAR, therefore, has pushed for new initiatives to achieve this goal. These are the President Diosdado Macapagal Agrarian Scholarship Program, the Gulayan ng Magsasakang Agraryo (GMA) Program, and the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan Agrarian Reform Zones (Kalahi

## Diosdado Macapagal Agrarian Scholarship Program

The President Diosdado Macapagal Agrarian Scholarship Program was conceptualized to provide educational assistance to qualified and deserving children of ARBs.

Initially, DAR has allocated 1,500 scholarships to deserving students nationwide.

Scholarships are open to those who are willing to take up any four year course in agriculture and agribusiness, and preferably in state colleges and universities in consideration of affordability of tuition.

An agrarian scholar is entitled to a free tuition, book allowance, and a monthly stipend.

It is hoped that the scholars will be highly motivated, technically equipped, and well educated to assume the responsibility of managing the lands awarded to their families under CARP.

It is further hoped that, eventually, this will lead them to assume the greater task of nation building.

## Gulayang Magsasakang Agraryo (GMA)

This is essentially an anti-poverty program, with focus on providing support services to ARBs who are engaged in the production of various vegetables and fruits.

It aims to integrate ARCs and adjacent areas into economically viable vegetable production units. The ultimate goal is to increase the income and improve the social condition of the vegetable farmers by at least doubling their production.

Vegetable farmers will be encouraged to organize a cooperative marketing system that will increase their market leverage. As they increase the volume of their production, their marketing system can meet large volume orders. This will open new markets that otherwise would have been closed to individual farmers. As production volume increases, opportunities for agro industrial processing and exportation become more feasible.

## Kalahi ARZones

Kalahi ARZones are composed of ARCs and non ARC barangays where support services for farmers-beneficiaries will be enhanced.

Kalahi ARZones are envisioned to become hubs of agro-industrial development, where partner agencies could pool and maximize the use of limited government resources to benefit all farmers, including non-agrarian reform farmers. The administration intends to establish at least one Kalahi ARZone per province, with a target of assisting 15,000 barangays by end of 2003.

What do we want to happen in Kalahi ARZones?

We want a convergence of efforts and resources by all agencies and groups that are already involved in the modernization and productivity of our agriculture.

This convergence has been before in other areas by DAR partners and other stakeholders. We want this convergence fully expressed in Kalahi ARZones to create an impact.

We want the farmers to diversify into crops that have more value-added and great demand in the market, so that they will have greater income opportunities.

We want the farmers to be able to put up and manage on-farm, off-farm, and non-farm micro-enterprises to generate additional income for their households.

We want the farmers to venture further into such areas of business enterprise as food manufacturing and processing, to lay the groundwork for a sustainable agriculture-based industrialization in the countryside.

We want the farmers to be organized into strong organizations, preferably cooperatives, so that they can have the collective effort to fund their business operations, finance their production, and market their produce.

We will establish linkages between farmers' organizations and agribusiness enterprises to promote partnerships, joint ventures, and other entrepreneurial relations between farmers and private investors not only to ensure market for the farmers' produce but also to encourage the flow of more investments into the rural areas.

We want the farmers to involve in food manufacturing and proces-sing, since the ARCs have a variety of products that have great potential in the world market.

ARC products such as wines processed from various local fruits, dried mangoes and various local prunes, handicrafts, and others have attracted the interest of exporters and foreign investors who want some of these products to be commercially produced for worldwide distribution.

The global opportunity is already there for the ARBs and ARCs, but they have yet to fully take advantage of that opportunity.

For this reason, DAR is promoting the creation of Kalahi Farmers' Centers (KFCs) as a component of Kalahi ARZones.

KFC is an extension or learning center that would develop the technical skills and capability of ARBs in farm production and agribusiness management.

DAR's target is to establish at least one KFC in every province. It will play an important role in the delivery of development interventions needed to establish and strengthen Kalahi ARZones.

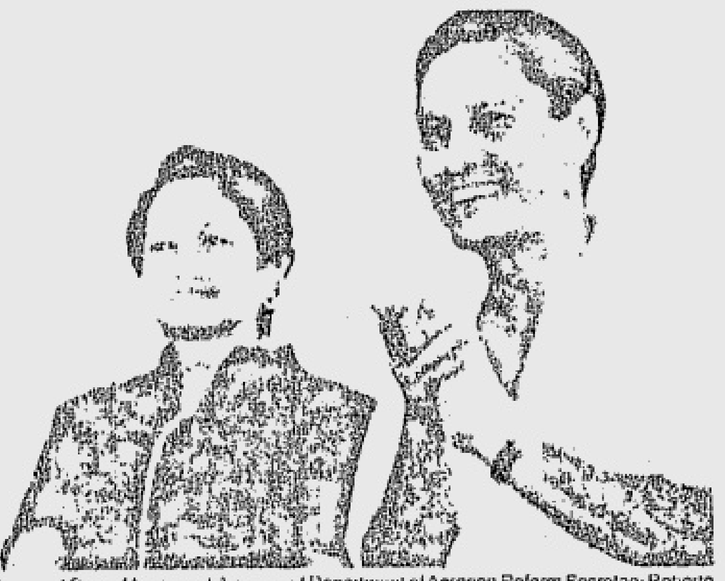
Several KFCs have been established in Pangasinan, Bulacan, and in several provinces of Mindanao. Involved in the creation of KFCs are LGUs, academic institutions, civil society groups, and concerned CARP-implementing agencies.

Existing KFCs are mostly located in the premises of academic institutions or state colleges and universities that provide technical and skills training to ARBs.

### Achieving Cong Dadong's vision

CARP has made gains that the nation can be proud of. We thank the late President Cong Dadong for his vision, and whose landmark legislation we commemorate today. Our farmers certainly have moved forward since the Agricultural Land Reform Code of 1963.

In a matter of time, when all the groundwork for rural development has been laid with the help of CARP partners and stakeholders, perhaps we will achieve a critical mass that would one day open before our eyes a booming countryside, ARCs industrializing, and farmers effectively competing in the global market.



President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Department of Agrarian Reform Secretary Roberto "Obet" M. Pagdanganan during the signing of the Columbio Resettlement Area (CRA) for Sultan Kudarat held in Calumpit, Bulacan. The CRA aims to create jobs and distribute agricultural lands to MILF rebel returnees and their families.

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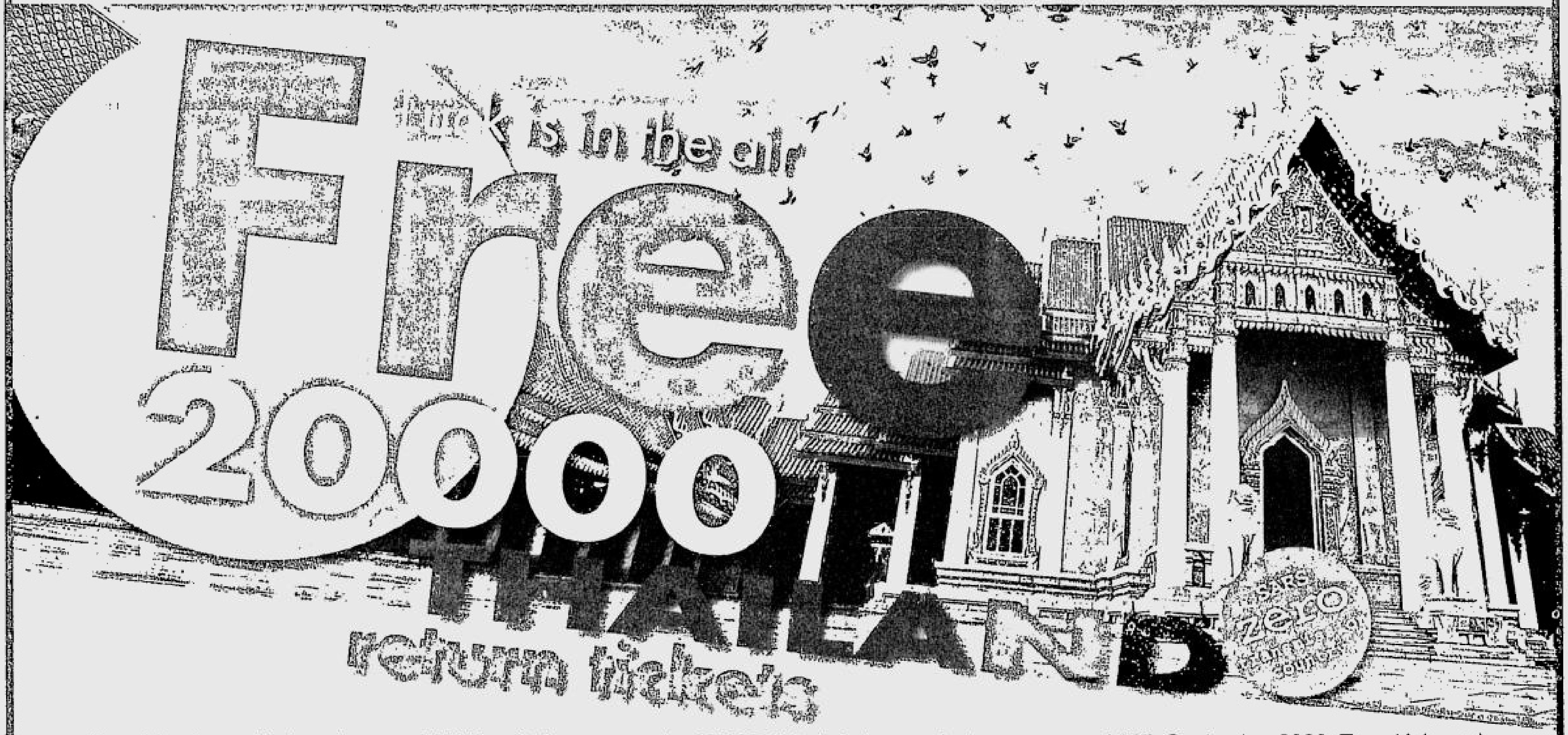

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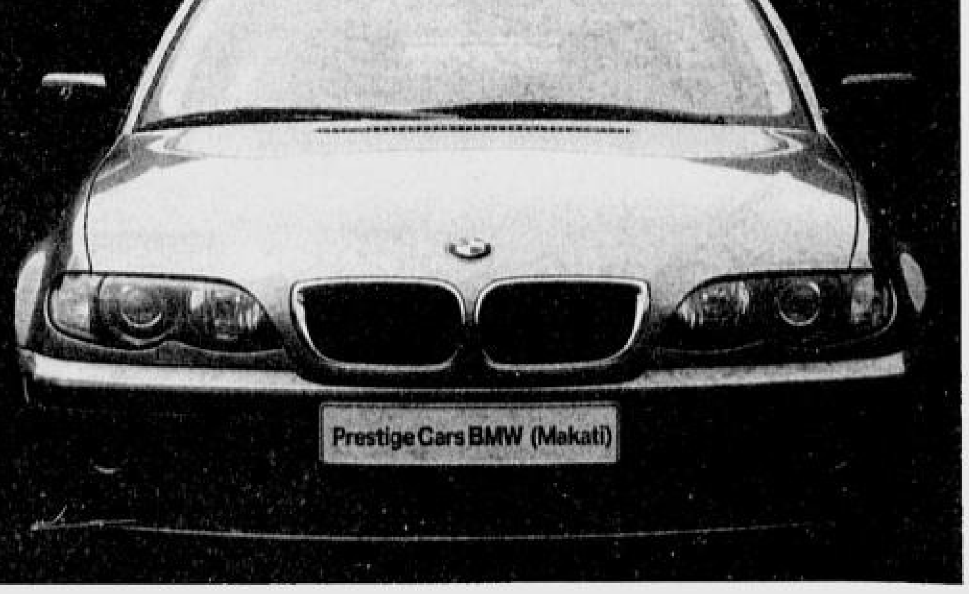

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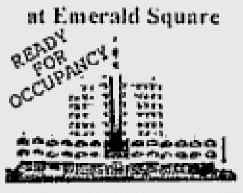

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1.5% Fast Car Loan 6567685

1HR FastCarLoan 7125202

2% w/o Taking Car 7221021

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 6560140

2% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-02

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

## GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

### ELECTRONIC & INDUSTRIAL EQUIP

Generator 15KVA P20T A-1 Call 9219465 4262970

### PETS

AM. COCKER SPANIEL. PEDIGREE W/ SHOT PAPERS. BLACK OR BUFF. FEMALE. 3 MONTH. P16000 PH8160148

Dog Trainer 09192050952

### SPORTING GOODS

SEA & SEA MX10
U/W Camera & Flash YS40A
Flash Close Up&Macro Lens
Pelican 1450 Case
Poso 32,000 Tel:816-0148

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ROLEX
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5633742 0917-8473744

## GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

### WANTED TO BUY

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Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
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7220433 • 4123543

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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### FEMALE

CASHIERS
Female - College Level (20-25 yrs old) • Tel No 628-0617

Dentist,Nurses,Domestic Helper 530-0159 / 09206262141

SINGERS 4 KTV FEM 18-27 YRS RUSH BOOKING 7515508/09

### MALE/FEMALE

4 EXP. HI-SPEED SEWER
1 EXP. GARMENT CUTTER
20 MALE EXP ARTISTIC FLOWER ARRANGER 25-35 YRS OLD 20 EXP PROMO GIRL SINGLE 5'2 18 - 24 YRS OLD / PLEASING PERSONALITY CALL 7321942 ; 7321954 9am-5pm Jenet

BILLING & COL. OFFICER 5271590

DOCTORS / SKIN THERAPISTS FOR NAGA, CABANATUAN, QC, BATANGAS, NAIC, ISABELA CALL NATY 721-9227 UP TO 28

FREE CAREGIVER TRAINING 5280730 589-9958

HAIR DRESSER
For SM Megamall 09178398638

JOB HIRING 09162678805 LEN

Mktg Personnel 9193219950Alyssa

Mktg Staff 09192535623 Crizel

Ofc Mktg Staf 09186532375 Vince

OFC MKTG. STAFF w/ basic salary Mr. Roco • 5754451

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### ANNOUNCEMENT

CAREGIVER TRNG 5271500

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late CATE ANTERO DUCIL was extrajudicially settled with waiver of shares among the heirs per Doc 03 Page 1 Book V Series of 2003 bef Notary Public Jennifer Sta Ana of Mkna City (PDI-Aug 8,15 & 22, 2003)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Rodrigo F. Galvez was adjudicated to Rosa A. Galvez per Doc. 148, Page 30, Book XIV, Series of 2003 before Notary Public Santiago D.R. Agdeppa of Quezon City.
(PDI-Aug. 8, 15, 22, 2003)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CULTURE AND SPORTS
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE

**BULLETIN OF VACANT REGULAR POSITIONS**
(In compliance with RA 7041)

(1) Project Development Officer III–SG 18, Item No. OSEC-DECSB-PDO3-12-1998; Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; 2 years of relevant experience; 8 hours of relevant training. Career Service (Professional); Second Level Eligibility

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICE
DepEd-EDPITAF
Dorm D, DepEd Complex
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Sps. Fortunato and Soledad Pauso located at San Juan, M.M. has been extrajudicially settled by their heirs as per Doc No. 210, Page No. 42, Book No. 54, Series of 2003 by Notary Public Ana R. Garcia of San Juan, M.M. (PDI-August 1, 8 and 15, 2003)

NOTICE THAT HEIRS OF OSCAR BASCO ESCOBAR EXECUTED EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF HIS ESTATE DATED MAR. 16, 2003 PER DOC 301, PAGE 66 BOOK 2 SERIES OF 2003 ACKNOWLEDGED BY CHERYLL JUNE M. CALAGUIO OF PASIG CITY (PDI - Aug. 1, 8 & 15, 2003)

### NOTICE OF LOSS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALIEN CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION WITH REG. NO. E215458 UNDER THE NAME OF RONALD VAN DOGGENAAR WAS REPORTED LOST.
PDI-Aug. 8 & 15, 2003

### PERSONAL

HAPI BDAY CHIP!
LOVE U! DAR & MILO

Holy Spirit, you who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank you for everything, amd confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you no matter how grwat the material desires may be, I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Amen.
You must pray this prayer 3 consecutive days without asking your wish. After the 3rd day, your wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this dialogue as your favor has been granted.

Novena Prayer to Saint Jude
Oh, Holy St. Jude apostle & Martyr, Great Virtue, Rich in Miracle, near in kisman of Jesus Christ faithful intercessor of all who invoke Your special patronage in time of need to you I have resourced from the depth of my heart & humbly begged great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present & most urgent petition. In return, I promise to make Your name known and cause You to be invoked. St. Jude, pray for us and all who invoke thy aid Mr. Roberto Paz and Family

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PERSONAL

Prayer to St. Jude of Thaddeus, worker of miracles, help of the hopeless. Most Holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of difficult cases, of things most despaired of, Pray for me I am so helpless and alone. Intercede with God for me that he brings visible and speedy help where help is most despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of Heaven in all my necessities, tribulations and sufferings, particularly (Make your request here) and that I may praise GOD with you and all the saints forever. I promise, oh blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor granted me by God, and to always honor you as my special and powerful patron and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen May the sacred heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of the hopeless, pray for us.
(Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days, followed by the Lord's Prayer. On the eight day, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.)

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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## EQUIPMENTS FOR SALE!!!

The following articles are offered for sale with their indicative (**negotiable**) prices:

| Item | Location | Indicative Price |
|---|---|---|
| Riding Mower | Bonifacio Global City, Taguig | PhP 100,000 |
| Kubota Tractor Model L4200DT | Brgy. Sinturisan Sitio Owakan, San Antonio Quezon | PhP 300,000 |
| Kubota Tractor Model L3300DT | Brgy. Sinturisan Sitio Owakan, San Antonio Quezon | PhP 200,000 |
| Generator KVA 250 (A1 Condition) | Brgy. Sinturisan Sitio Owakan, San Antonio Quezon | PhP 690,00 |

For inquiries and further details, please call Mr. Froilan Tejada at 885 3739 and (0917)627 8288. Offers should be sent to the above officer at Building A, Bonifacio Center, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila not later than August 15, 2003. All offers to purchase shall be subject to approval by company approving authority.

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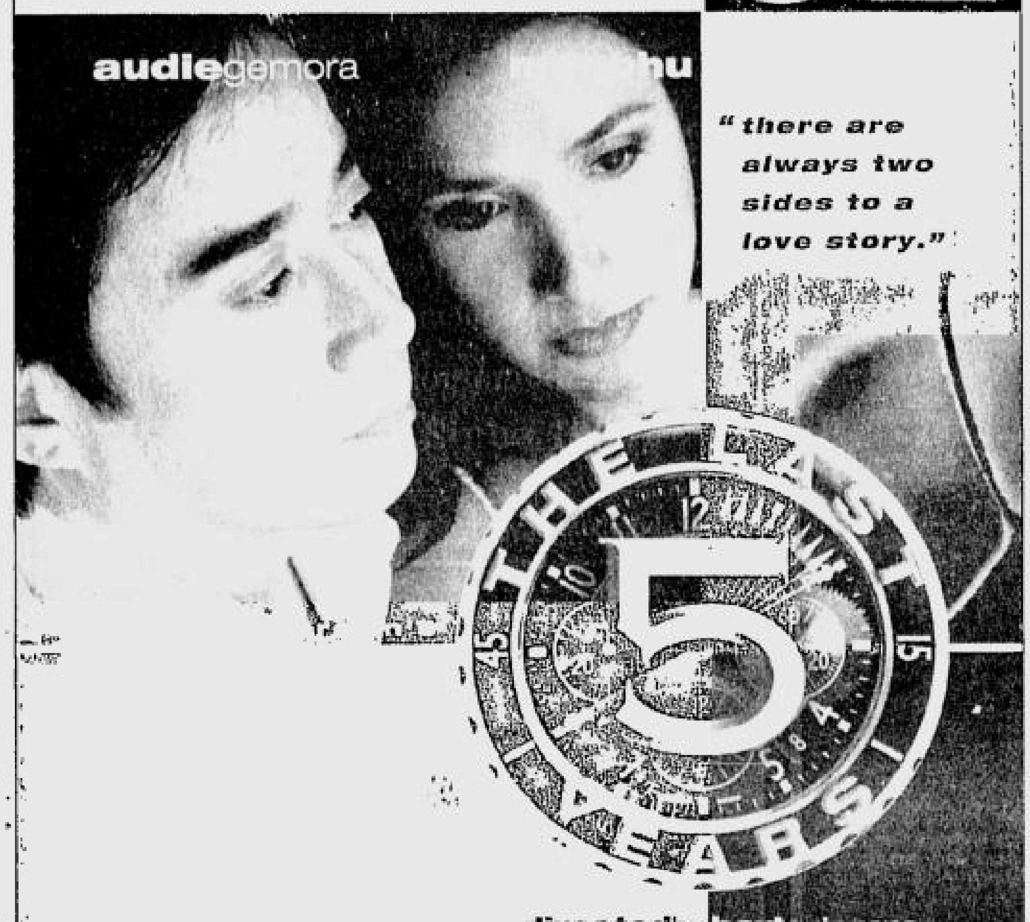

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musicaldirection rubenreyes
setdesign ginogonzales
lightingdesign johnneillaobatalla
costumedesign jojilloren mardeniglesias
graphicdesign junpoblador

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**TASTE EXPO PRESENTORS**

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Aug. 6-9, 2003
World Trade Center

**WORLD FOOD SUMMIT**
SEMINAR SERIES

DAY 3 (Aug. 8)
FOOD TECHNOLOGIES SERIES [illegible]
CULINARY SERIES [illegible]
DEVELOPING A WINNING TEAM IN THE FOOD BUSINESS [illegible]

DAY 4 (Aug. 9)
CATERING SERIES [illegible]

**TASTE EXPO**
CELEBRATING CULINARY ARTISTRY

DAY 3
DAY 4 (Aug. 9)
[illegible]

Schedules subject to change without prior notice
No one under 16 years old allowed Expo Hours 10am-7pm

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722-1144 or 722-1155

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Republika ng Pilipinas
PANGASIWAAN NG TUBIG AT ALKANTARILYA SA METRO MANILA
Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System
Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City 1105, Philippines
CORPORATE OFFICE

# ANNOUNCEMENT

The MWSS announces that the arbitration hearings under the Uncitral Arbitration Rules between the MWSS (Claimant) and Maynilad (Respondent) re: Dispute arising from the termination of the Concession Agreement shall be on August 9-19, 2003 at the Edsa Shangrila, Mandaluyong.

(PDI - Aug. 8, 2003)

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## INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

Air-condtioning Units (5 Tonner)

All interested dealers/suppliers are invited to pre-qualify and bid for the following requirements of the Department, for delivery and installation at the Imus Museum:

11 units Ceiling mounted
07 units Floor mounted (vertical)

Deadline for submission of pre-qualification requirements is on **15 August 2003 (Friday)**, after which bid forms shall be made available to pre-qualified bidders. Opening of Sealed bids is on:

DATE : **25 August 2003 (Monday)**
TIME : **2:30 p.m.**
PLACE : **Room 307, 3rd Floor, DOT building**

in the presence of all participating bidders or their authorized representative(s). *A pre bid conference shall be held on **20 August 2003*** (Wednesday) at 10:00 a.m. at the Imus Museum.

The list of pre-qualification requirements may be secured Room 309, 3rd Floor, DOT Building, T.M. Ermita, Manila. For further inquiries, please call up telephone nos. 5253744 and 5238411 to 30 loc. 238.

The DOT reserves the right to reject any or all bids and/or any part thereof, waive any defect contained therein, and accept an offer most advantageous to the government.

01 August 2003.

(Sgd.) **ASEC. MA. THERESA I. MARTINEZ**
*PBAC-Chairperson*

(PDI--Aug. 8, 11 & 12, 2003)

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Parañaque Tel. 837-4834 • San Juan/ Mandaluyong Tel. 456-0699
Marikina Tel. 948-9627 • Baguio Tel. (074)442-6417/ (074)442-9016
FOR OTHER AREAS NOT LISTED PLS. CALL 926-1961 OR 927-4181

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PHILIPPINE CARABAO CENTER
Department of Agriculture

Headquarters and Gene Pool
Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines 3120
Fax 63 (44) 456-0730
Tel 63 (44) 456-0731 to 34
Email [illegible]

Manila Liaison Office
5/F DCIEC Bldg. NIA Cmpd. EDSA,
Quezon City, Philippines 0830
Tel/Fax 63(2) 921-3863
63(2) 926-7707

August 4, 2003

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Philippine Carabao Center (PCC), an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture is inviting all interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following.

| | Packages | Approved Budget |
|---|---|---|
| I. | Semen Processing and Artificial Insemination Supplies | P 2,570,000.00 |
| II. | Veterinary Drugs and Supplies | 1,500,000.00 |
| III. | Tires | 269,000.00 |
| IV | Laboratory Equipment | 1,000,000.00 |
| | Total | P 5,339,000.00 |

The date of bidding and pre-bidding conference including the eligibility requirements are detailed as follows

Date of bidding — September 12, 2003, 10:00 a.m.
Place of bidding — PCC Liaison Office, 5th Floor, DCIEC Building, NIA Compound, EDSA, Quezon City

Requirements to be submitted on the date of the bidding
Envelope 1 — (Eligibility Envelope)
Envelope 2 — (Technical Envelope)
Envelope 3 — (Price Envelope)
Pre-bid conference — August 29, 2003 10:00 AM, place of pre-bid conference PCC Liaison Office, 5th Floor, DCIEC Building, NIA Compound, EDSA, Quezon City

Issuance of Instructions to Bidders.
Bid Proposal Forms bidding documents August 11 to 21, 2003

B, Eligibility Requirements
B.1 Legal Documents
- Mayor's Permit Municipal License (Current)
- DTI/SEC Registration (Current)
- BIR, TIN and VAT Registrations
- Statement that the firm is not blacklisted by any government office, agency or corporation

B.2 Technical Documents
- Track record of previous similar transactions/sales delivered and accepted
- Purchase Order related to the items to be procured. The previous sales or contract shall be at least fifty percent (50%) of the approved budget for the item to be bidded
- A valid Bureau of Foods and Drugs registration of the product shall also be submitted

3.2.2 Financial Documents
- Financial Statement stamped "Received" by the BIR for the immediate preceding calendar or fiscal years duly notarized. The working capital (current assets less current liabilities) of the two (2) audited Financial Statements shall be at least equal to the total amount of the approved agency estimate
- Sealed bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security equivalent to 2.5% of the total bid price in the form of cash or manager's/cashier's check from a bank or financial institution

For further information please call Engr. Eduardo Dalusong, Procurement Officer at telephone numbers (044) 4560-731 to 34 or Mr. Rogel M. dela Cuesta at telephone numbers 920-7707 and 921-3863

All particulars relative to the Eligibility, Bid Bond, Pre-Bid Conference, Evaluation and Award shall be governed by Republic Act No. 9184 and Executive Order No. 40, Series of 2001 and its implementing rules and regulations

The Philippine Carabao Center reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any formality in such bids, and to accept bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) LIBERTADO C. CRUZ
*Executive Director*

(PDI - Aug 7 & 8, 2003)

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UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM
Diliman, Quezon City
Office of the Vice-President for Administration

## INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

A. The University of the Philippines System hereby invites all interested parties to pre-qualify for the bidding of:

**Multimedia projectors, computer workstations and servers, and switches**

Detailed specifications will be indicated in the bidding documents.

B. The following pre-qualification requirements in two copies, duly certified must be submitted to the System Supply and Property Management Office (SSPMO), Administration Building, Quezon Hall, U.P. Campus, Diliman, Quezon City, to form the basis in evaluating and assessing prospective bidders:
  1. SEC/DTI/Cooperative Development Registration Papers
  2. Year 2003 Business License/Permit
  3. Income Tax Return for the last 3 years (2000-2002)
  4. Audited Financial Statements for the last 3 years (2000-2002)
  5. Highest purchase order served

C. Deadline for submission: August 15, 2003

D. Bidding schedule will be announced to all pre-qualified bidders only.

E. The University of the Philippines reserves the right to review the qualifications of a selected bidder, subject to technical, financial and production criteria, reject any or all bids, waive any formality or defect therein and accept the offer considered most advantageous to the Univesity.

F. For further particulars, please inquire from the OIC, SSPMO, anytime during office hours at the above-mentioned address or call 926-4919.

**(Sgd.) MARTIN V. GREGORIO**
Vice-President for Administration

(PDI – August 1 & 8, 2003)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City Tel. no. 928-4501 to 09
Cable Address: "Philcoa" P.O. Box 3386, Manila, TIN# 000724616

## NOTICE OF SALE

**"As Is, Where Is"**

There will be a re-bidding on the auction sales of the hereunder fertilizers aggregated into one (1) lot at the Philippine Coconut Authority, Diliman, Quezon City on **August 21, 2003.**

| Types of Fertilizers | | Quantity/No. of Bags | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ammonium Sulfate | (AS) | 30,380 bags | One Lot |
| Potassium Chloride | (KCl) | 11,400 " | |
| Superphosphate | (SP) | 23,780 " | |
| Salt | (NaCl) | 7,970 " | |
| Dolomite | (Dol) | 4,040 | |
| Total | | 77,570 bags more or less | |

Said fertilizers are available for inspection at the PCA Regional Office in Lucena City and warehouse in Tiaong, Quezon during office hours.

Sealed bids on an "As Is, Where Is" basis in the prescribed form shall be received together with their Stand-by Bidder's Bond equivalent to ten Percent (10%) of the total bid amount in Cash, Manager's Check, or Cashier's Check until 2:00 PM on the abovementioned date at the Executive Lounge, 8th floor, R & D Building, Philippine Coconut Authority, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City and shall then and there be opened and publicly read.

For interested parties, bid documents can be secured at the Procurement Operations Division, 2nd Floor, R & D Bldg. For more details, please contact telephone no. 927-84-28 or 924-47-61.

Pre-bid Conference — August 15, 2003 (Friday) at 2:00 PM
Registration Fee — Php 2,000.00 (non-refundable)
Bid Bond — 10% of Bid Price

(Sgd.) DENNIS J. CALUB
Chairman, Committee on Appraisal and Auction of Undelivered SCFDP Fertilizers

(PDI – Aug. 6, 7 & 8, 2003)

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UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS
College, Laguna

## INVITATION TO BID

The University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) invites interested parties to submit sealed bids for the public bidding of **Laboratory Equipment** for Chemical Engineering (CE) and Electrical Engineering (EE) with approved budget of P3.4M and 3.6M respectively.

Interested parties may secure bid documents and the checklist of the qualification requirements from Supply and Property Management Office (SPMO).

The schedule of the bidding activities is as follows:

| Particulars | Date/Time | Place |
|---|---|---|
| Issuance of Bid Documents | Aug. 7-14 / 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. | SPMO |
| Pre-Bid Conference | Aug. 15, 2003, Fri. / 10:00 a.m. | SPMO |
| Opening / Submission of Bids | Sept. 5, 2003, Fri. / 10:00 a.m. | SPMO |

Bidders shall submit two (2) sealed envelopes containing a) TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS (e.g. qualification requirements indicated in the checklist, bid security as to form, amount and validity period, authority of signatory, after sales service/parts. Catalogues/brochures/other literatures, etc.) and b) FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS at the Supply and Property Management Office, UPLB.

The UPLB reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect therein and make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the UPLB. The UPLB likewise assumes no obligation for whatever losses that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of the bids nor does it guarantee that the award shall be made.

(Sgd.) TERESITA M. ESPINO
Chair, BAC

(PDI – August 1 & 8, 2003)

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# OBITUARIES

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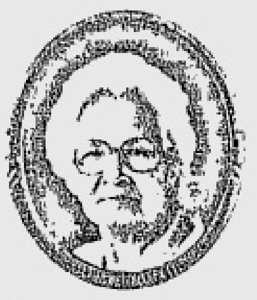
(632) 845-2341 or (632) 845-2342
sales@heritagepark.com.ph

That our friends may know



Our dearly beloved mother,

## *Lea "Iyang" Cruz-Concepcion*

has been reunited with our father,
HERMOGENES "Mine" CONCEPCION, SR.
and our sister, EULOGIA "Logie" CONCEPCION
in the comforting arms of our Lord.

*May we earnestly enjoin our fellow Christians to be with us in praying for the eternal repose of their souls. Mama's mortal remains will temporarily stay in our care, in our ancestral home at 769 Bitas, Cabanatuan City, until her interment at one o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday, August 10, 2003, at Cabanatuan's Old Cemetery.*

LEMINA "Baby" CONCEPCION-CASSELS
CRISANTO "Tanto" CONCEPCION
IRENEA "Nina" CONCEPCION-MALLARI
MIGUEL "Mike" CONCEPCION
LORENZO "Larry" CONCEPCION
ANGELA "Lita" CONCEPCION
ANTONIO "Tony" CONCEPCION
PEDRO "Pet" CONCEPCION

---

23rd Death Anniversary of

## MAYOR DOMINGO BUSTOS FLORES, SR.

of Macabebe, Pampanga

**8 August 2003**

**Holy Mass will be offered today at:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Presentation of the Lord Parish**<br>*Batasan, Macabebe, Pampanga* | 6:00 AM |
| **San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish**<br>*Macabebe, Pampanga* | 6:00 AM |
| **St. Rafael Parish, San Rafael**<br>*Macabebe, Pampanga* | 6:00 AM |
| **Our Lady of Manaoag Shrine**<br>*Manaoag, Pangasinan* | 6:00 AM |
| **San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish**<br>*Neptune St., Congressional Subd., Quezon City* | 6:00 AM |

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## COL ARTEMIO QUINITINITA GUMTANG (Ret) JAGS

*Peacefully joined his Creator*
*on August 4, 2003 at the age of 66.*

His beloved wife **Maeste Jaucian Gumtang**; and children **Josefferdinand, Jonathan (†), Nathaniel David, Eleanor, Michael, Theresa May Fatima, Rachel Esther**; daughters-in-law, sons-in-law, grandchildren, sisters **Agripina Rimando, Edita** and husband **Gerry Villaver** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Libingan Ng Mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila.

Necrological service will be held after the 7:00 evening Mass on Friday, August 8, 2003.

Interment will be on Saturday, August 9, 2003 at 12 noon
after 10:00 AM Mass at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani,
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila.

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## ISABEL YU CUBILLAN

of Surigao City

*Peacefully joined her Creator on July 30, 2003.*

Her remains lie in state at Aldonza Funeral Homes. Interment will be on Saturday, Aug. 9, 2003 at the Surigao Memorial Park after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

For details, please contact Randy at #09167057666.

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## DEATH NOTICES

### EDUARDO M. VILLANUEVA

Passed away on August 4, 2003
at the age of 80

His remains lie in state at the Capilla de la Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio Memorial Chapels, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, 9:00 a.m., August 9, 2003 at the main church of Santuario de San Antonio. Cremation will follow immediately.

### FELICIANA P. DE VERA

Passed away on August 3, 2003
at the age of 85

Her body lies in state in Ex-Mayor Felipe de Vera, Jr. residence in Calasiao, Pangasinan

Interment will be on Saturday, August 9, 2003 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in St. Peter & Paul Church, in the Town Cemetery.

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*Don't be afraid of death. Accept it from this day on, generously... When God wills it, how God wills it, where God wills it. Believe me, it will come at the time, in the place and in the way that are best sent by your Father God. May your death be welcome!*
The Way, Point 739
St. Josemaria Escriva

## ABRAHAM VASQUEZ ATIENZA

*Died in the Grace of Our Lord last Tuesday*
*5th of August 2003 at the age of seventy-five*
*Born 15th August 1928.*

His bereaved wife **Leticia**; children and in-laws **Alex & Betty, Allan, Alderee & Auro, Aleta & Arnie, Alicia & Boni, Aldrian & Elvie, and Aldo & Marilou**, and grandchildren **Joanne, Miko, Sarah, Tessa, Ted, Tom, Thea, Guada, JM, Jaypee, Maan, Amiel, Carla, Andrew, Adam, Anthony, Eula, Ada, CJ, Tina, Kris-Ian, James, and Ethan**, request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the San Lorenzo Ruiz Chapel, Cebu Rolling Hills, A.S. Fortuna St., Mandaue City

Interment will be on Sunday, the 10th of August 2003 at the Manila Memorial Park-Cebu, Municipality of Liloan after the Requiem Mass at 1:00 p.m. at San Lorenzo Ruiz, Rolling Hills Memorial Chapels.

Please omit flowers.

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## DOMINADOR M. ALMEDA, JR. M.D.

of Quezon City and Naga City
peacefully joined his Creator
on August 6, 2003 at the age of 65.

His bereaved sisters and brother:
**Fredesvinda** and husband **David M. Consunji**
**Angelita** and husband **Felipe F. Cruz**
**Emmanuel**
**Erlinda** and husband **Ramon Chikiamco** (†)
**Zenaida** and husband **Simplicio J. Roxas**
Nephews, Nieces and Friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City and will be brought to Naga City Saturday, August 9, 2003 at 4:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the indigent patients of the Dept. of ENT Head and Neck Surgery of FEU-NRMF Medical Center will be greatly appreciated.

Interment will follow after the 9:00 a.m. Mass
on Sunday, August 10, 2003
at the Peñafrancia Cemetery, Naga City.

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## BRIG GEN (RET) FRANCISCO DEL PINO DEL CASTILLO

AFP, PMA CLASS 1940
OF VIGAN, ILOCOS SUR

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN

He was 88 years old when on August 5, 2003, God graciously called him from labor to enjoy eternal refreshment in His Kingdom.

His wife **Violeta Zerda** (†); children **Louella (Bing), Milagros (Tootsie), Irene** (†), **Maritess and Boyet**; sister **Alejandria Tejada**; sons-in-law **Jimmy Hizon** and **Domingo 'Toy' Palarca**; daughter-in-law **Mae**; grandchildren **Jaymie** and **Rosary, Jeffrey, Miko** and **Gladys, Bingo, Tisha, Arvie, Bobby** and **Shimei**; great grandchildren and his other relatives and friends request prayers for the repose of his soul.

His remains now lie in state at the Funeraria Paz, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be at high noon on Tuesday, August 12, at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio.

-oOo-

"Hero number one of the United States Philippine forces in the Far East was a Filipino soldier named Castillo. Acting on his own that morning he had sensed what was about to take place. He collected all the male Filipino residents he could find, armed them, and proceeded to assume official control of Davao. He rounded up Japanese leaders and generally took over, until Lieutenant Colonel Roger Hillsman and his forces in the vicinity got to the spot and relieved him. Castillo received the war's first high commendation from General MacArthur's headquarters."

(SO SORRY, NO PEACE by Royal Arch Gunnison, The Viking Press, New York 1944; p. 33)

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## ATTY. JOSE TOLENTINO DIOSOMITO

**Retired Army Officer**
**Former President of the Rural Bank of Naic, Inc.**
**Naic -- Indang, Cavite**

Joined our Creator on August 6, 2003 at the age of 85.

*A devoted husband to his true love*
**Catalina Del Rosario Diosomito**

*A disciplinarian father to*
**Jim** and **Tiet Diosomito, Nilo** and **Lynn Diosomito,**
**Marlene Diosomito, Ditas Diosomito**

*A generous grandpa to*
**Denden** and **Eddie Chan,**
**Nathaniel Diosomito, Joshua Diosomito**
**Jocelynn** and **Fred Mather**
**Jonathan Diosomito**

*A great grandpa to*
**Eric Chan, Nylene Mather, Jake Mather**

*A loving brother to*
**Julia Diosomito Salazar**

*Relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.*

His remains lie in state at the Pastoral Hall of the Diocesan Shrine Parish of the Immaculate Concepcion, Naic, Cavite.

Interment will be on Sunday, August 10, 2003 at Nazarene Eternal Garden, Naic, Cavite immediately after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

*An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.*

*Always caring...*
**INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

**WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS** and bank-to-bank payments

"Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love Him." *1 Corinthians 2:9*

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

## BUSINESS *Friday*

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

# Get creative–spin an idea by reversing it

**By Dennis M. Arroyo**
*Contributor*

MARKETING is an art, as well as data-driven science. It often calls for out-of-the-box thinking. One of the means to get creative is to spin an idea by reversing it. Here are three examples, starting with some offbeat news.

### Man scares shark

Mainstream idea: men have a natural fear of sharks, the razor-jawed terrors of the deep.

Reversal: jumping into the water and scaring a shark would get much public attention.

A British comedian named Guy Venables did confront a shark, but with an added twist —he did his stunt in the nude. He got the publicity he wanted, as seen in CNN coverage (June 16, 2003). But he didn't expect what resulted from his stunt—the poor shark died from shock.

"This variety of shark is susceptible to stress. We are very concerned he died as a result of seeing Mr Venables jumping into the tank," Sea Life Centre's Lisa Handscomb told the Daily Telegraph on June 13.

### Dental clinics like spas

Mainstream idea: dental appointments incite fear in some people—think of all the drilling and scraping in your sensitive mouth.

Reversal: Make it as soothing as a day spa. That is exactly the tack pursued by some American dental clinics, according to a December 2002 news item in Reuter's.

The "dental spas" started in Florida. They come with warm pillows, aromatherapy candles, manicures and back massages. During the dental work, customers wear cool masks for their eyes and gel packs for their feet.

"Can I come here on vacation?" jokes client Nancy Rubenstein to her dentist, Dr. Kenneth Mogell.

"We just like to spoil everybody," says Mogell.

The idea is to get the clients relaxed before the main tooth scraping starts. The clinics should feel more like a home than a dentist's office.

Such services also attract those whose main interest is cosmetic renewal—they often spend more.

For example, Houston's Imagemax Dental Day Spa caters to this beauty-care set. The customers get to breathe pure oxygen in the Japanese Zen garden.

Then they pamper themselves with facials, seaweed body wraps, Botox injections, and hot stone massages.

Perhaps the dental spa concept may click in the Philippines. Naughty Pinoy entrepreneurs may go a step further and offer videoke rooms as a prelude to laser eye surgery.

### Riding on nationalism

A third case is the hamburger chain McDonald's.

Mainstream idea: the burger chain is a symbol of American culture around the world. As such, it has tasted protests, some violent, in more than 50 nations. Reversal: Make McDonalds a symbol of nationalism. The following examples are taken from the Business 2.0 article of Tony Karon.

Consider how France resented American cultural imperialism. Farmer Jose Bove vandalized a McDonald's branch in 1999, and this reportedly thrilled the French.

The company responded via ads with cowboys who declared that McDonald's France would not import US beef "to guarantee maximum hygienic conditions."

The chain also played down Ronald McDonald and stressed Asterix, the French comic book icon who defied the Roman Empire.

### Friend of the victim class

In 1998, America went on a bombing spree against Belgrade, Yugoslavia, to free Croatia and Bosnia from Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic.

Anti-US and anti-NATO sentiment was at an all-time high.

So the Belgrade outlets of McDonald's joined the protests against NATO.

They gave out free burgers during the rallies. They put on a Serbian nationalist cap on the Golden Arches and added the slogan, "McDonald's is yours."

In 2001 Egyptians were simmering in anger against the United States for supporting Israel. Some took to boycotting McDonalds. The franchise there responded with commercial jingles sung by Shabaan Abdel Rahim to sell the new McFalafel. The singer is famous for his top-of-the-pops hit, "I Hate Israel."

In 2002 Arabs seethed against Israel for its attacks in response to the Intifadeh, the revolts of the Palestinians. US products suffered from boycotts. The outlets in Saudi Arabia rose to the occasion during Ramadan by supporting the casualties of the troubled land.

For every Bic Mac sold, they would give 30 cents to the Red Crescent Society and Gaza's Nasser Hospital. The money would be used to care for the Palestinian wounded.

### No longer elitist

How did they McSpin the burger chain in the Philippines? At the start McDonald's here tended to attract more those from the upper and middle class. The pioneers saw the need to broaden the market base, so their commercials took on a new angle. They hired Dolphy, the masa's top comic, as their ad spokesperson. And they coined a more Pinoy nickname for the 'mercan brand McDonald's: the homespun McDo. The campaign was a hit, as the customer base expanded.

*Comments to <darroyo@philonline.com>*

**CHINESE** consumers no longer buy a product just because it is western made.

# Do the Chinese still buy imported goods?

**By Roger Pe**
*Contributor*

THINKING of marketing your brands overseas? Or investing abroad?

Why not just pump the money into your own backyard.?

A brand manager once said China offers a big marketing opportunity for deodorants because it has over one billion armpits. Now he wishes he had kept his mouth shut.

Western brands are finding it hard to make the grade in China . In a recent McKinsey report, the average investment return for multinational food brands was 5 percent below the cost of capital, compared to 38 percent worldwide. A lot of factors contribute to this.

The size of the China market is overestimated. Not every Chinese can afford a deodorant.

There is also down-the-wire local price competition, costly and complicated problems to mount a marketing campaign.

In several categories, where foreign brands have poured large sums of investment money (laundry detergents among the biggest), the share of imported brands in the world's most populous country has dropped.

So is there any hope for foreign brands in China, or in any part of Asia?

According to strategic planning expert John Woodward, they will succeed but it won't be simply be because they are western brands.

Foreign brands need to realize they are also competing with local brands.

In China 10 years ago, a brand could fly if it were western based on the belief that their quality was better.

Today according to the China Media and Marketing Survey, only 26 percent agree with the statement "although they are more expensive, I like foreign brands."

Major factors have changed the landscape. First, product availability. In today's China, there is an increasingly large choice of well-made local products.

Second, Chinese pride is on the rise. Admission to the World Trade Organization hosting the 2008 Olympics have contributed to this.

China does not think of itself as second-class country and consumers do not think that "buying Chinese" is anything to be ashamed of.

Third, consumers are more confident in their brand choice. This is especially true with the young generation. They go for products that work, not simply where they are made.

Inspite of its political problems and geopolitical tensions, the sub-continent of India continues to be one of the most exciting marketplaces in Asia because of its consumers who buy quality local brands. It has demanded attention from the global community because of its remarkabale growth in personal consumption, led by a significant middle-class population that patronizes local brands.

Foreign brands can only grow in Asia or any other place in the world the way they do everywhere else—by offering benefits people want at a price they are willing to pay for.

It is important too how these products are marketed.

It is clear that global strategies need to be carefully adapted to local conditions every time. And if western brands follow these simple marketing principles, success is possible

# *Tap away at a keyboard and make payments a breeze*

**By Margie Quimpo-Espino**

KUALA LUMPUR—If MasterCard International can convince businesses, we would soon all be ordering our Big Macs by tapping away at the keyboard at any McDonald's outlet.

Tap a key for a large iced tea, and another for apple pie. Then go in the store to pick up the order and pay by tapping away at yet another key.

Each transaction will take only about two-tenths of a second to complete.

This payment scheme is called the MasterCard PayPass.

Under this scheme, consumers simply tap keys or wave their payment card on a specially equipped merchant terminal that then transmits payments details electronically, removing the need to swipe the card through a reader. The scheme is geared towards businesses where speed is essential such as fast food outlets, gas stations, and movie theaters.

The firm, known more as a credit card company in the Philippines, has evolved into a global e-business firm that develops technology for anytime, anywhere payments across various channels and devices.

And, we may all soon have just one card to do all these transactions.

Martyn Cooper, MasterCard International' s VP for e-business and emerging technology, spoke during the recent CardEx Asia 2003, in Malaysia, on the latest developments in the firm's push for smart cards.

CardEx is the country's only card technology expo that serves as a platform for industry players to explore the technological applications available worldwide in the smart card arena.

Smart cards are plastic cards, like your credit card, which contains a chip, that can contain a huge store of information. The goal is to eventually eliminate all your plastic cards and have one card that can do the functions of all of them.

Cooper's talk, entitled "A Customer Focused Approach to Chip," discussed the firm's latest technologies to bring security and functionality of payment cards. He discussed the various impact of smart cards on day to day transactions.

Cooper noted that in the US, value of transactions last year totaled about $3.7 trillion. Nearly two thirds or some $2.4 trillion were paid in cash, which could mean checks, actual money, or debit cards. Credit card payments totalled $1.3 trillion.

The cash transactions is the arena the card firm wants to tap via the smart cards. MasterCard earns from a smart card the way it does with credit cards—on a per transaction basis.

Cooper said that except for the board tapping to order a Big Mac, the above described scheme of paying via smart cards by a mere tap on a terminal, is already being done in a pilot project at a McDonald's in Florida where the owner allowed the use of credit cards.

**MARTYN Cooper**

Sales in fast foods are traditionally cash transactions because of the small amount involved but MasterCard's goal is to convert merchants and consumers into using smart cards for payments, big and small. Cooper cited that the pilot project resulted in a 40 percent increase in the average.

In a paper on smart cards, T.V. Seshadri, MasterCard's country manager in Singapore and the head of technology and operations for Southeast Asia, talked about a single smart card that can serve as a payment card—be it debit, credit or stored value, provide a means of personal identification and recognition, record and track integrated credit card rewards programs points or frequent flyer miles, be used for mass transit payment, provide secure access to buildings and be programmable as a hotel room key.

A smart card is simply your ordinary plastic card which carries a chip that can store a huge amount of data. In most countries, credit cards still use the magnetic stripe—that black line at the back of your card that carries information about you.

The problem with the mag stripe is that it can only carry limited data and is vulnerable to fraud.

Seshadri wrote that the MasterCard M/Chip powers the smart cards and and incorporates a much higher level of security. This means smart cards will be the ideal solution for consumers encumbered by managing multiple cards for multiple applications and looking for the consummate "electronic wallet."

He added that the business and technology case for smart cards is an accepted one. In an Asian consumer survey conducted by MasterCard, 80 percent of the respondents expressed a desire for a multi-function smart card. 85 per cent of those wanted their smart cards to be loadable with multiple features (usage information, bank account details, e-cash capabilities, loyalty membership details etc.).

Shuan Ghaidan, vice president, Advance Payments, Asia Pacific, MasterCard International, in a press briefing talked about the benefits of smart cards to both issuers and consumers. On the issuer side, "many more applications can be loaded on one card and these provide customers greater flexibility and freedom."

He added that MasterCard's smart card platform is industry-open and globally interoperable so all vendors can integrate with it.

"Smart card technology is the next important shift in the payments industry after the move to magnetic stripe cards. Smart cards will change the way that payments are made," Ghaidan reminded.

Over the past two years, there has been a tremendous growth in smart cards in the Asia Pacific region. As of the second quarter of the year, there are 12 million cards issued. However this is still a fraction of the total card base in the region which total about 160 million.

DBSBANK
DBSBANK

**SHUAN Ghaidan talks about the shift from magnetic stripes to chips in your plastic cards (above).**

# Malls may abound, but innovations still a must

**By Tina Arceo-Dumlao**

MALLING or going to the malls has become a way of life for Filipinos. A week is hardly complete without dropping by the mall.

With the number of these shopping places, however, Filipinos have also become more demanding. They want something new all the time.

Philippine mall operators are very much aware of the changing Filipino tastes, thus, they are hard pressed to constantly innovate.

Business Friday interviewed three mall operators, who share how they have updated their malls to get a bigger part of the Filipinos' shopping money.

## Greenhills Shopping Center

The Greenhills Shopping Center in the former Philippine capital of Quezon City was one of the first shopping centers to be put up in the Philippines, opening its doors to the public in the early 1970s.

It had several shopping malls (Virra Mall and Shoppesville), arcades (Manilabank, PCIB, Padilla and Crossroads), entertainment centers (Greenhills Theater and Greenlanes Bowling Alley) and a supermarket (Unimart).

Except for the theater, all the other buildings were leased to other companies that in turn, leased out small spaces to individual retailers.

Most of these leases expired in 2000, thus, when new malls sprouted in other parts of Metro Manila, the Greenhills Shopping Center was noticeably left behind as most of the retailers did not bother to do any improvements, since their contracts were up.

The Ortigas family, which own the complex, initially planned to sell the concept but later took back the offer and decided to redevelop the mall themselves.

By late 2001, a new management team was formed and the owners earmarked as much as P700 million to rehabilitate and upgrade the shopping center, in a bid to recapture its former glory.

Ortigas and Co. president Rex Drilon II says the plans include the complete renovation of the huge Greenhills Theater into two modern cinemas with 100 boutique stores; upgrade of Shoppesville; modernization of Greenlanes and rebuilding the old Manila Arcade into a modern Greenhills Lifestyle Center.

Other plans include the construction of a new row of restaurants and bars, two more cinemas and high-end, high-profile retail shops which will be sectioned off under the name "The Promenade."

There will also be a new high-end corridor called "The Shops" which will feature 2,000 square meters of retail space for luxury brands. A new jewelry exchange will also be put up to house 50 of the country's top jewelers in the tradition of the upscale gem centers in Bangkok and Hong Kong.

Drilon says the group is confident that by the time the improvements are completed, Greenhills would again be the destination of choice of both the well-heeled crowd and bargain hunters.

"We are providing a place where all kinds of shoppers can come. We will have a lot of parking space and we will provide a nice, safe shopping experience for all," Drilon says.

"We also believe that the real strength behind Greenhills is its merchants. We are proud of the fact that we are a shopping center that does not discriminate against race or religion," Drilon said.

## Shangri-La Plaza

Filipinos who go for high-end brands most likely go to The Shangri-La Plaza in Mandaluyong City. The mall is part of the Kuok family's Shangri-La group of companies.

The mall tries to keep itself looking fresh and new for its discriminating clients.

Shangri-La Plaza general manager Lala Fojas says the latest redevelopment plan kicked off in 2000, and the first phase involved some changes in the architectural details as well as the color scheme to the current blue and yellow combination.

Little touches were also put in to improve the shopping ambiance such as the revolving doors, the first one to be installed in the Philippines, and the fountain, which was scaled down.

"We are redeveloping zones to keep in pace with the changing tastes of the market," Fojas says.

One of the primary changes was the development of more restaurants along the perimeter of the mall to attract the night crowd to the mall.

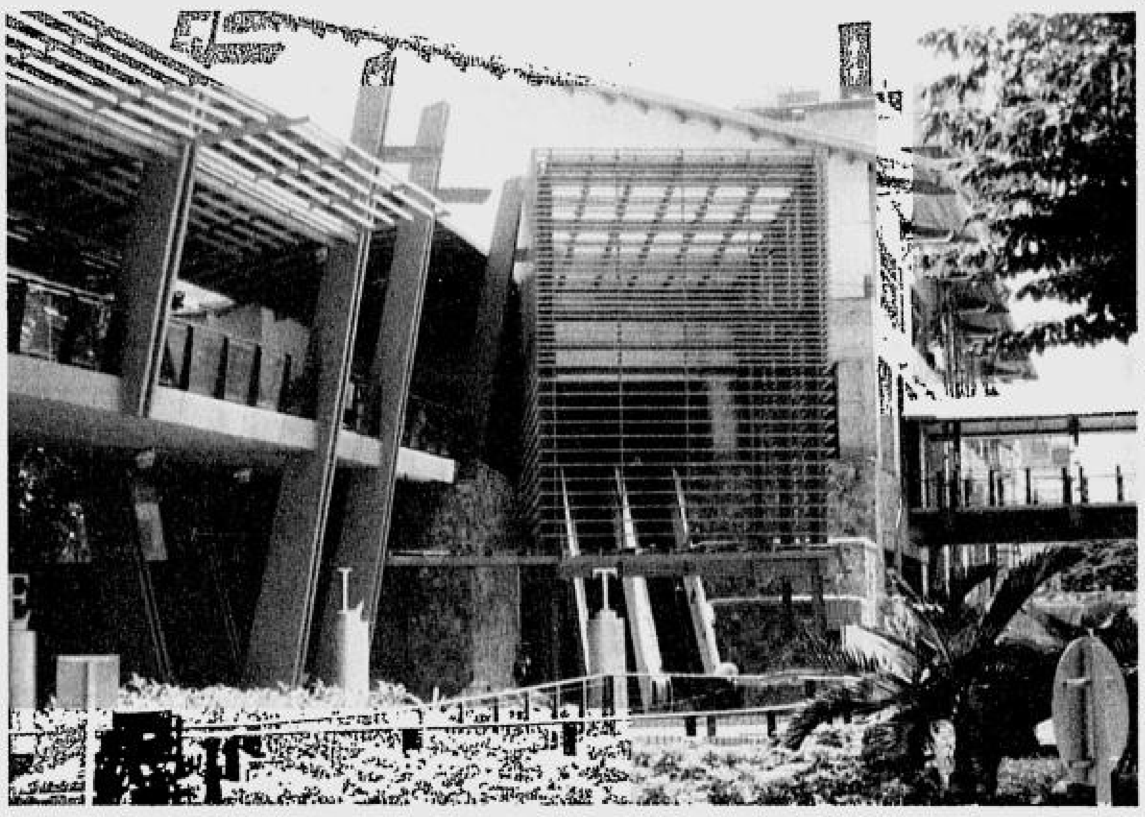
"We will have al fresco dining and entertainment area to target young professionals. We will also have weekend events. The Streetscape, which is what we call the area, will be launched sometime in August," Fojas says.

Management has also set out to redevelop the cinemas by converting five of them into state-of-the art cineplexes including a VIP cinema for special events and art film presentations.

The current level four will also be converted into an art plaza, which will house the art galleries and retail stores that sell antiques and collectibles.

"It will have an interior design of its own and we are looking at completing it also by August. It will also have its own café," she says.

THIS high-end mall works hard to provide a safe environment for shopping.


"GREENBELT defies the big box" shopping center concept. It splits up the outlets into several retail buildings.

PHOTOS BY JEROME E. DUMLAO

Fojas says these substantial changes are necessary because Filipino shoppers are becoming increasingly conscious about extracting the most value out of their money spent on shopping.

She stresses that value-for-money does not necessarily mean getting the cheapest item on the menu, rather getting what they paid for.

"It is not just about the products that they buy, people are looking for an experience. That is the trend right now because a mall is a lifestyle center and it involves more than just shopping," Fojas says.

Giving Filipinos more than just shopping includes proving a safe environment for shopping. Shangri-La Plaza, thus, prides itself in having wide hallways and emphasis on security. It also includes providing a wide variety of choices for fashion and for food. Even the piped-in music is carefully chosen.

"We keep tabs on these trends through in-depth market research and the fact that the owners are making substantial investments in the mall shows the kind of confidence they have not only in the mall but in the Philippines as well," Fojas says.

## Greenbelt, Ayala Center

In terms of location, perhaps nothing beats the Greenbelt, Ayala Center, which boasts of over 200 retail, dining and entertainment choices. It is also the only shopping center that sits on a 2.6-hectare park with a chapel, over 600 trees, themed gardens, ponds and various water features.

All these were put in place toward one goal—to provide customers with a relaxed and leisurely atmosphere where they can shop, dine or just hang out.

The latest of these redevelopments is the Greenbelt 4, which completes Greenbelt's urban retail entertainment center. Greenbelt 4 connects to the rest of Greenbelt, the Ayala Center and the Makati central business district through an elevated bridgeway system, which will also link it to the mass transport system.

Ayala vice president Rowena Tomeldan says Greenbelt 4 would be completed by the last quarter of the year and it would be divided into two areas—the retail shopping area and the Ayala museum.

Tomeldan says the retail shops on the ground floor of Greenbelt 4 would be the top-of-the-line fashion brands such as Louis Vuitton, Prada, Salvatore Feragamo, Yves Saint Laurent, Gucci, Bally, Bulgari, Burberry and Bottega Veneta. This is to differentiate Greenbelt 4 from the other Greenbelt malls that also have retail outlets.

The second floor, on the other hand, which directly connects to the elevated bridgeway system, will be housing the hip and trendy shops to cater to the Makati office crowd.

The third floor will have a large specialty bookstore under the Powerbooks group.

Tomeldan says another feature is the newly refurbished Ayala Museum, which will be three times larger than the old museum. It would be open to the public by the second half of next year.

"The idea is to give the Greenbelt shopper more choices. If they want to splurge or treat themselves we will have something for them, if they want to browse, or look for gift items we will also have it. It is all about choice," Tomeldan says.

Once completed by the end of the year, the Greenbelt Center completes its image as the primary destination for shopping, dining and entertainment, attracting an average of 450,000 people a day.

It defies the "big box" shopping center concept and instead split up the outlets into several retail buildings. Greenbelts 1, 2 and 3 revolve around a nature park, which makes it an ideal setting for al fresco dining and small concept shops.

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# Incentives for small businesses

**By Eleanor M. Montenegro**
*SGV & Co.*

**TAX-FILES**

CONGRESS recently passed a law that grants income tax exemption and other benefits to qualified barangay-based businesses.

Dubbed the "Barangay Micro Business Enterprises ("BMBE") Act of 2002" Republic Act No. 9178, the law aims to encourage the formation and growth of BMBEs, which the law-making body recognizes as "seedbeds of Filipino entrepreneurial talents," alternative sources of employment and viable channels for income generation.

BMBEs are given the following incentives and benefits under the Act:

- Exemption from income tax on income arising from the operation of the registered barangay micro business;
- Possible reduction in or exemption from taxes, fees and charges imposed by local governments on barangay businesses;
- Exemption from the coverage of the Minimum Wage Law;
- Access to special credit facilities, which the Act mandates the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), the Development Bank of the Philippines DBP), the Small Business Guarantee and Finance Corp. (SBGFC) and the People's Credit and Finance Corp. (PCFC) to set up specifically to service the credit needs of BMBEs. The Act goes as far as to exempt interests, commissions and discounts derived from loans to BMBEs from the gross receipts tax (GRT) [now the value-added tax (VAT)].

## How to qualify

A barangay micro business enterprise may be an individual, a corporation, a cooperative or an association that is engaged in any of the following activities:

- Production, processing or manufacturing of products or commodities, including agro-processing,
- Trading, and
- Services

The term "services," however, excludes the practice of a licensed profession.

The sole criteria to qualify as a BMBE is that the total assets of the business or enterprise must not be more than P3 million. Assets include those arising from loans but exclude the land on which the office, plant and equipment of the business or enterprise is situated.

## Procedure for registration

To avail of the incentives and benefits, the BMBE needs to secure a certificate of authority from the office of the city or municipal treasurer where the BMBE intends to operate. A fee of not more than P1,000 is paid.

The municipal or city treasurer evaluates the application and issues a certificate of authority within 15 days from submission of complete documents. If the municipal or city treasurer fails to act on the application within 15 days, the application is deemed approved.

The certificate of authority issued to the BMBE is valid for two years and can be renewed for another two years.

## Incentives to financial institutions

To further ensure that the credit delivery benefits under the Act are actually enjoyed by BMBEs, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) recently issued a circular which gives incentives to the financial institutions that will set up and extend credit facilities specifically packaged for BMBEs.

Under the BSP circular, all loans from whatever sources granted to BMBEs will be considered as part of alternative compliance to the "Agri-Agra Law" or to the "Magna Carta for Small and Medium Enterprises."

For purposes of compliance with the mentioned laws, loans granted to BMBEs will be computed at twice the amount of the outstanding balance of the loans.

As previously mentioned, interests, commissions and discounts derived from the loans granted to BMBEs are exempt from gross receipts tax.

Furthermore, banks may be allowed to establish branches despite of or as a special exception to the general moratorium on the establishment of new banking offices, provided that these new branches will cater primarily to the credit needs of BMBEs.

## Conclusion

The BMBE Act is a long-overdue recognition of the value of small, home-based businesses. The past years have shown where the indefatigable Pinoy spirit thrives—in small "sari-sari" stores, laundry shops and "pan de sal" counters. The incentives and benefits under the Act should encourage more of this self reliant entrepreneurial spirit that will, in turn create wealth where it is most needed.

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# Advice for a retiring executive/aspiring entrepreneur: Market to the poor

*(First of two parts)*

**MARKETING RX**

*Dr. Ned Roberto*
*& Ardy Roberto*

"I'M SET set to retire from my corporate job at the end of the year. If things don't get worse here, I've decided to set up my own business. What products sell well even during times of crisis? I was thinking of either food or consumer durables targeting thé middle class."

Congratulations on your decision to be an entrepreneur! Our country needs more people like you. (The only way things can go for the worse from here, is if FPJ runs for president and wins. Then we'll probably join everyone else in migrating to New Zealand.)

Anyway, our advice is to set up a business that will cater to the poor. Forget about the middle class. Unless we elect true social marketers as our nation's leaders, the poor will continue to get poorer and the rich, richer. And the middle class? They will soon disappear.

Just take a look at the AC Nielsen or Taylor Nelson Sofres SEC research. (Or read Dr. Ned's book "Marketer's Guide to Socio-Economic Classification of Consumers" at National Bookstore or at the AIM library.) The middle class are constantly struggling—either being pulled upwards or downwards. What happens is that they either move up to the upper class (Class AB) or slip down to the lower class (Class DE).

So unless you have very good connections with the established very rich (one percent of the population) or the grosse nouveau riche (think shrewd BIR employees living in Ayala Alabang) and would like to sell them something like Subzero refrigerators (that sell for at least a cool P1 million a piece) you should consider marketing products or services to the poor. Think Class DE. As the Bible says, the poor will always be with us. Especially here in the mutinous Philippines.

We know what you're going to say, "But the poor, are poor! They don't have any money to spend!"

The poor spend!

Consider these marketing facts.

The largest SEC segment in terms of population size are the Class D segment and the Class E segment. Out of the Philippines' current total population of 76 million, 48 percent are Class D. That's a huge 36.5 million. Then the Class E population are 42 percent or 31.9 million. Together, these two segments are 68.4-million strong.

One of the misperceptions about the poor or the Class DE that we should correct is the widespread belief that this population is not a market because they don't have the money. The fact is that they do have the money and they spend what they have.

They have the money and they have much more than what they divulge to market survey interviewers. They have much more than what government income statistics say because those statistics are about the aboveground economy whereas the money of the poor come more from the underground economy.

And they spend. In or out of hard times, this market segment continues to spend. And they spend more if not much more than the mid-scale and upscale segments.

One neglected reality of consumers in this segment is that they do not spend evenly throughout the year. In this time of difficulties, for most of the year, they spend sparingly under a tight budget.

However, there are several occasions during the year when they spend lavishly and splurge. They have a budget for these special events because they save up for them.

This splurging is reserved for three categories of occasions for celebration. One set is for a personal individual occasion to celebrate. This category includes occasions like birthdays, a debut, wedding anniversary, and even death anniversary. They are occasions that occur separately and independently for the celebrant. The participants in this occasion for celebration may be an individual, a couple or family members.

A second category refers to those occasions for celebration by typically a household or family and they occur on the same day or period. These occasions include Christmas, New Year, Valentine's Day, Father's Day, Mother's Day, and the like. The participants in this type of occasion are family or household members who celebrate within the family or household.

The third category concerns those occasions for celebration by an entire community or neighborhood. They take place over an extended period of time like a week to two or even 3-4 weeks. These occasions are barangay, municipality or city fiestas and festivals. Their participants are all the household in the barangay, municipality or city.

*(Feedback at MarketingRx@SaltAndLightVentures.com)*

# Apat na Dekadang Paglilingkod ng Bangkong May Damdaming Bayan

Maraming pagbabago na ang naganap ngunit nananatiling malinaw ang daang aming tinatahak: ang mai-angat ang antas ng kabuhayan sa ating mga kanayunan. Hinubog ng maraming taong karanasan at pinatatag ng mga pagbabagong dala ng panahon, ang Land Bank of the Philippines ay patuloy sa masigasig na paglilingkod sa mga magsasaka, mangingisda at maliliit na negosyante.

Marami pa ang gawaing nararapat tupdin at pagsubok na darating, ngunit patuloy kaming magiging matatag, matapang at matapat sa pagtupad ng aming misyon sa kanayunan.

Sa aming ika-apatnapung taon, itinataas at ipinagbubunyi namin ang aming mga katuwang sa pagpapaunlad ng kanayunan.

**LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES**

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Apat na Dekadang Paglilingkod ng Bangkong May Damdaming Bayan

LANDBANK

# 40 years of making a lasting difference in the countryside

By Joel V. Nigos

SPURRING growth in the countryside has been a herculean task for the National Government. Resources in these areas are scarce and poverty is widespread, necessitating the extension of financial and other forms of assistance.

This is where the Land Bank of the Philippines comes in. A government financial institution charged with the unique mandate of promoting growth and development in the countryside, Landbank helps the government to eradicate poverty in the rural areas by extending support to its priority sectors: small farmers, fisherfolk, micro, small and medium enterprises, agribusiness; agri-infrastructure; and environmental related projects.

A full-service universal bank, Landbank constantly strives to maintain a balance between its agrarian mission and its commercial banking operations. The balancing act has been challenging, but in spite of the odds, Landbank has managed to experiencing a downturn in its net profit then.

But with clear targets in mind, including steering the bank back to its original mandate, desired results soon began to manifest.

"From only 32 percent of our total loan portfolio for our priority sectors in 2000, we initially went up to 38 percent in 2001. The next year we were up by another 7 percent to 45 percent. We also noted a substantial increase in our net income," Teves says.

### Financial highlights

Despite the challenges faced by the industry and the economy as a whole, Landbank has posted significant gains.

It has successfully reversed its declining net income, which dipped to as low as P509 million in 2000 as a result of the 1997 Asian financial crisis. The bank netted P1.5 billion and P1.65 billion in 2001 and 2002, respectively. And with a net income of P1.09 billion as of end-June 2003 as against P833 million for the same period last year, the bank is on track with its target of P1.8 billion in net income this year.

"Higher income from loans and investments and the prudent management of expenses contributed largely to the expansion of the bank's revenues," says Teves.

LANDBANK provides credit facility to farmers.

maintain profitability, plowing back its gains to development initiatives in the rural areas.

Now on its 40th year, it has become the largest formal credit institution in the countryside accounting for about 67 percent of all formal lending to agricultural households. It has also been able to penetrate almost 90 percent of the country's total number of municipalities. Furthermore, it is the only bank with branches in all of the country's 79 provinces, including far-flung areas like Batanes, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi.

These accomplishments did not come so easily, however. According to Gary B. Teves, president and CEO of Landbank, when he assumed the post in September 2000, 68 percent of the bank's total loan portfolio was allocated to other sectors. Landbank was also

The bank has also retained its ranking as one of the top five banks in the country today. Its industry ranking is 3rd in terms of deposits, 5th in terms of capital and 4th in terms of assets. It also brought down its non-performing loan (NPL) ratio to slightly below the industry average.

In terms of agri-agra lending, the bank is anywhere between breaking even to subsidizing the agra component. "Since the agriculture sector is quite comprehensive, encompassing agri processing, plantation agriculture and many other agri-related corporations, this is where the bank generates profits," he says.

### Plans and programs

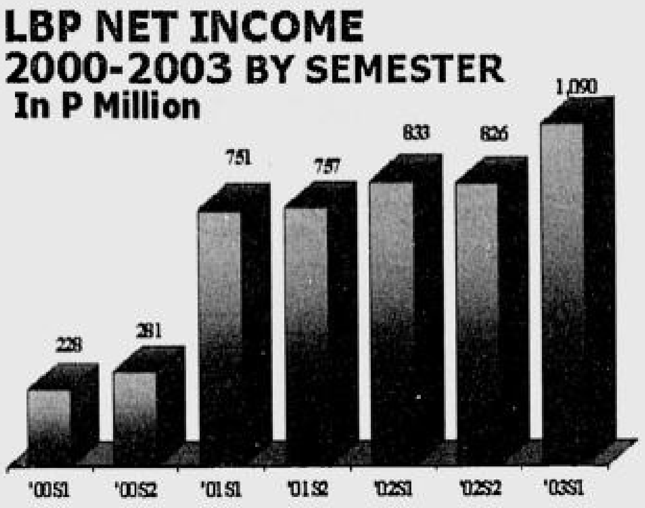
Landbank is now focusing on the fundamentals through the employment of eight major strategies.

First is the expansion of loan portfolio to its priority sectors.

"By the end of 2003, our target is to attain a 55-percent shift in our loan portfolio in favor of the agri-agra projects. By end-2004, the ratio should be 65:35 percent also in favor of the agri-agra projects," Teves says.

The bank, he says, is also looking at ensuring effective corporate governance and improved risk management. "This is through the strengthening of internal control systems at all levels," Teves says.

LBP NET INCOME 2000-2003 BY SEMESTER
In P Million



The automation of the bank's core processes and enhancement of its IT system is also included in its eight-point strategy. The bank will acquire a total of additional 301 ATMs from 2003 to 2004 for distribution to various parts of the archipelago. Specifically, Luzon will account for 82 ATMs, Visayas, 64, Mindanao, 95 ATMs, and the NCR, 60.

A master plan has also been crafted to rationalize branches and improve the delivery network, to reduce NPLs and ROPOAs to industry levels, to ensure the bank's long-term viability and sustainability and to generate low-cost and long-term funds while maintaining core deposits.

The bank has also improved its response time to customers by cutting down on loan processing time from 75 to 45 days.

In addition, as part of enhancing its human capital, Teves says, they have already allocated a total of P78 million for 2003 alone for seminars and trainings of employees.

"There are three specific areas that the bank is really concentrating on. Moving back toward its original mandate, sustaining profitability and continued improvement in the services side of banking operations," says Teves.

### Partner of government

Landbank is also a vital partner of the government in the realization of its programs.

Under the government agrarian reform program, Landbank serves as the conduit in paying the landowners. Furthermore, the bank's contribution to the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA) has reached P7.8 billion for the period January to June 2003. This represents 46 percent of the bank's commitment to deliver P17 billion in credit and technical assistance for 2003. This will benefit more than 155,000 small farmers and generate more than 46,000 new jobs.

In the area of anti-poverty programs like microfinance, Landbank has been channeling funds to its supervised conduits like the People's Credit and Finance Corp.

In terms of outstanding loans to SMEs, the figure is at P15.7 billion as of May this year. This makes the bank the largest contributor to the sector. Cumulatively, about 1.4 million farmers and fisherfolk have already benefited from the program. The bank hopes to increase this number to 2 million by the end of 2004.

Total loans to the priority sector now amount to P59.3 billion representing 50.5 percent of the total loan portfolio of P117.5 billion. This puts the bank on track with its year-end target of 55 percent.

In terms of support services, with the help of local government units (LGUs), Landbank has provided roads, irrigations and other facilities.

"We are both an active and indirect partner of government in its programs," Teves emphasizes.

### Challenges ahead

Despite its significant gains and impressive track record of accomplishments, however, Landbank still faces major challenges.

One is in the area of Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program or CARP where the bank's advances have reached P3.5 billion as of end-June 2003. The bank is also absorbing CARP-related manpower and other operating expenses amounting to P600 million per year. Teves says that these advances should have been channeled to the support services of the priority sectors where Landbank would be most effective.

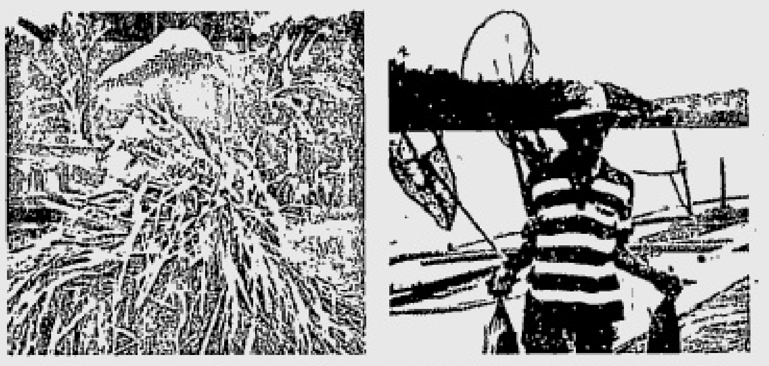
President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's announcement during her State of the Nation Address (SONA) is a welcome development for the bank, though. The President has said that about P38 billion from the Marcos ill-gotten wealth will be available for CARP. This was after the Supreme Court declared in its ruling that the Marcos' Swiss bank accounts are ill-gotten and therefore belong to the government.

In terms of non-performing assets (NPAs), Landbank has made some progress in reducing its non-performing loans (NPLs) but is faced with the increasing level of its real and other property owned and acquired (ROPOA) or foreclosed assets. Its NPL ratio is now slightly below the industry average of 16 percent, where it once stood at 24 percent. For its ROPOA, the bank is now currently tapping both internal and external efforts to either sell the assets, or enter into either joint-venture or lease-purchase agreements.

Another area of concern for Teves is the increasing demand for more efficient service. "Landbank should be at par with the country's top banks in terms of automation, service delivery and response time," Teves says. "There's also the need to enhance the morale and productivity of its employees and the quality of its service to clients through continuous training."

According to Teves, however, the bank welcomes these challenges. "We look forward not only to overcoming them but also to continue living up to our commitment to make a lasting difference in the countryside."

LANDBANK has also provided support services to farmers in terms of fixed assets.



SMALL farmers and fisherfolks are the priority sectors of Landbank.

LBP Loans to Priority Sectors
*(In P Billions)*

| SECTORS | AS OF MAY 2003 (P B) | % SHARE TO TOTAL LOANS | AS OF DEC 2002 (P B) | % SHARE TO TOTAL LOANS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Farmers and Fisherfolk | 12.0 | *10.2* | 12.2 | *10.8* |
| 2. SMEs and Micro-enterprises | 15.7 | *13.4* | 14.9 | *13.2* |
| 3. Livelihood Loans | 2.5 | *2.1* | 2.4 | *2.1* |
| 4. Agribusiness | 13.5 | *11.5* | 12.5 | *11.1* |
| 5. Agri-Infrastructure (LGUs) | 7.8 | *6.6* | 7.1 | *6.3* |
| 6. Agri-Related Projects (GOCCs) | 5.0 | *4.3* | 4.0 | *3.6* |
| 7. Environment-Related Projects | 2.8 | *2.4* | 3.0 | *2.7* |
| Total Loans to Priority Sectors | 59.3 | *50.5* | 56.1 | *49.8* |
| Total Loans to Other Sectors | 58.2 | *49.5* | 56.5 | *50.2* |
| TOTAL LBP LOAN PORTFOLIO | 117.5 | *100* | 112.6 | *100* |

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# Landbank honors top cooperatives with Gawad PITAK

AS LANDBANK celebrates its 40 years, the Bank will also distinguish venerable cooperatives in the country this year with the awarding of the annual Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba or Gawad PITAK. Started in 1991, the Gawad PITAK has opened doors in maximizing the full potentials of cooperatives which have been foremost factors in the development of small and impoverished communities. Contenders are judged by their noteworthy strategies, membership expansion programs, linkages with other cooperatives and their respective local government units, collection performance and capital build-up programs.

The following cooperatives are the chosen, worthwhile few who will vie for the coveted 2003 Gawad PITAK awards:

### Agri-Based Category

**Diffun Credit and Development Cooperative**
*Diffun, Quirino*

The 51 founding members of the Coop came up with the idea of "dream coop" to get away from the usurers who were their usual sources of capital. Landbank in 1990 provided the coop a P360,000 loan to augment its loan crop production program for its farmer-members.

Then, there was no more stopping for the coop. Its total assets has remarkably grown to P47.6 million with a total share capital of P17.6 million. Its membership grew to 1,232 covering the entire province of Quirino as well as nearby provinces. The coop is also actively helping its members through loans, human resource management, mortuary aid, trucking services, scholarship, health care assistance and product marketing.

The dream coop has now become a reality for the people of Diffun.

**Emmanuel Multi-Purpose Cooperative**
*Cuenca, Batangas*

A group of seven hog raisers, tired of selling to middlemen, started the coop. They put up P7,000 as start up capital. They went from house to house encouraging their townmates to join the coop. They encouraged the members to sell their hogs to the coop, thus eliminating the middlemen.

The coop's success is nothing short of phenomenal. It is not only engaged in hog and cow raising and meat processing, it also has stalls and a grocery store at the Cuenca public market. It also has its own building located in their one-hectare land in Cuenca, Batangas, with a slaughterhouse and hollow blocks production area adjacent to it.

It has also put up other businesses such as trucking, feeds marketing, construction and the newly established gasoline station named E-Oil. The capital for the construction of E-Oil came from the patronage refunds and earnings in the capital investments of all members.

Total assets of the co-op still increased to P36.7 million as of end of 2002. Its paid-up capital now totals P16 million and their savings, P3 million.

**Landan People's Multi-Purpose Cooperative**
*Polomolok, South Cotabato*

The Landan Multi-Purpose Cooperative in Landan, Polomolok, South Cotabato has proven many people wrong, and many notions false.

LPMPC, as the co-op is called, is composed mainly of indigenous people who are referred to as B'laans, who take price in their rich heritage and customs.

But there was the time when poverty weighed them down and they depended heavily on dole-outs from charitable institutions. In June 1994, the coop was organized with the help of an NGO.

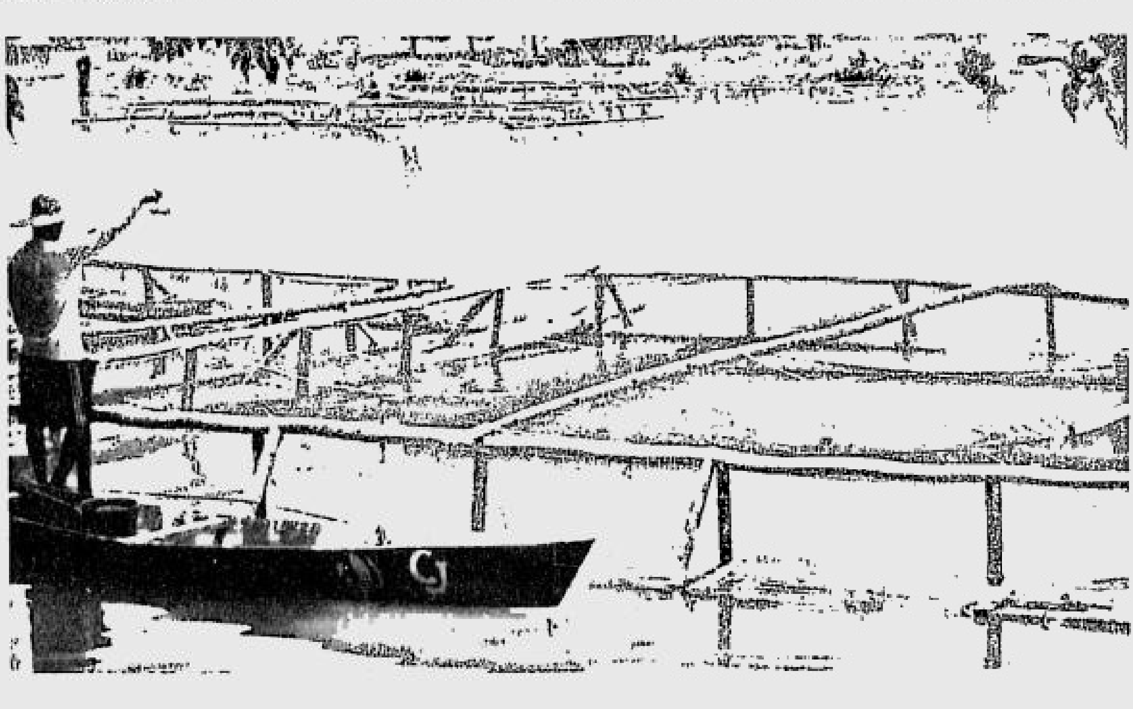
Its main livelihood activity was corn production. In 1995, the co-op launched a crop-livestock assistance project with the help of another NGO. It then got into a pineapple contract growing agreement with Dole-Philippines, with the support of Landbank and the DPWH. This significantly improved the co-op's financial viability, as it now has total assets of P60.1 million and P3.9 million in share capital.

Today, the co-op is considered the hub of economic activities in Landan.

**Sts. Peter and Paul Multi-purpose Cooperative**
*Hinunangan, Southern Leyte*

It was Canadian priest Rev. Fr. Frederick Wakeman who organized the co-op to help the poor Hinunanganons find alternative economic activities. Its founding members could only give coconuts as their initial share. The proceeds of P837.50 from the sale of the coconuts which were processed as copra became the coop's initial capital. Today, the coop has total assets of P60.58 million and deposits of P18.44 million. As of end of 2002, its net income is P3.59 million. Today, aside from generating employment to hundreds of its members, the coop has various social and civic programs for the locality, deservedly earning its title as the "lifeblood of the community."

It is now the solely recognized formal financing institution in the municipality and the biggest provider of livelihood in Hinunangan.



**Tayabas Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative**
*Tayabas, Quezon*

Founded in 1965, the coop met many challenges which would hound them for next 25 years. In 1990, a new set of management introduced changes which gave the coop a new lease on life. New deposits from members that were generated augmented the co-op's capital build up. New products and services for the members were introduced. To add to its capital, the co-op availed of a P50, 000 loan from Landbank.

Thus began the recovery and rise of the co-op from its poor operations. Massive campaign conducted by the new management encouraged more people in the community to join the co-op. As of December 2002, its total assets stood at P114.3 million, paid-up capital reached P41.2 million, and savings rose to P55.6 million. Today, its membership totals 3,233.

The coop also owns the tallest building in Tayabas where its administrative office, mini mart, furniture and appliance store are housed.

### Non-Agri-Based Category

**Dingle Government Workers Credit Cooperative**
*Dingle, Iloilo*

It was organized in the early 1990s through the efforts and perseverance of Mr. Rene Ariola, a former teacher, who started a personal crusade to provide a window to help teachers like him avail of cheap, low interest loans.

Struggles and difficulties did not dampen the cooperative spirit of the coop members; and with determination and hard work, they pressed on. A credit line from Landbank in 1995 greatly helped them in their operation. Membership more than doubled and the

LANDBANK/D7

# Steering Landbank: Its challenges and rewards

## Interview with LBP President and CEO Gary B. Teves

TRYING to get Gary B. Teves, to sit still for an interview was like trying to catch a fish with your bare hands. But as Landbank celebrates its 40th anniversary, we wanted to hear the thoughts of the man who helped turn the Bank around in the last few years, dramatically increasing profitability while bringing it back to its original mandate.

*Tell me about the day you were appointed to Landbank.*

It was completely unexpected! Former President Estrada, some Cabinet Secretaries and businessmen and I were on our way back to Manila from a business trip to the US. In fact, I was on my way to the bathroom when the President, who was sitting in the jumper seat while talking to another fellow, called me to join them for a glass of red wine.

We started to talk about our trip, then on how we could improve the economy, eventually zeroing in on agriculture.

He suddenly interrupted me and asked "Can you take over Landbank?" I tried to tell him that I was already happy with what I was doing at the time, serving as the private sector representative and de facto Secretary General for the Economic Coordinating Council.

*Why were you so hesitant?*

I was concerned that Landbank would be subjected to pressures beyond my control. So finally, I took him aside and asked him, "Mr. President, in case there are proposals coming from your friends, can I turn them down if I don't find them feasible?" When he promised that I would have full decision-making freedom, I was reassured. Still, I knew this was a huge commitment and asked him for a few days to think about it.

*Did you have any other concerns?*

I felt a little awkward about the transition, because Landbank presidents are traditionally co-terminus with the current administration. Also, I was primarily a student of economics, not a banker. But after some thought, I found myself eager to take this challenge on. The Bank's mandate reflected causes that were close to my heart-encouraging countryside development, alleviating poverty and promoting entrepreneurship. I felt that this was my chance to make a difference in those areas.

*What did you think of the Landbankers?*

I was very impressed with their professionalism. I told everyone that we would operate on a 90-10 arrangement. That means 90% of the ideas and contributions would come from them, and 10% would come from me. I told them I was going to rely on them, and they rose to the challenge, as well.

Landbankers are quite an impressive group. They quickly adjusted to my philosophy and style, which I found very helpful and very rewarding.

*Did you enjoy any aspect at all?*

It was tough, especially at first, but I actually enjoyed the challenge. I also really liked going out to the provinces and meeting the local staff and clients. I would make it a point to touch base with local media whenever possible, since these guys were the best way to communicate our programs to our clients.

*Do you think you've accomplished what you set out to do?*

So far, we're on track, which, in large part, is also thanks to the support of Secretary Camacho, the rest of the LBP Board and the Arroyo administration. As you know, President Arroyo's father, Diosdado Macapagal, created Landbank 40 years ago to support the small farmers and fisher folk, as well as to implement CARP. This administration has significantly supported Landbank's return to its mandate.

*What about your frustrations or regrets?*

I'll always wish that I had come into Landbank more familiar with the banking process and agrarian reform. That would have speeded up the learning process considerably. Also, as supportive as this administration is of land reform, the government simply doesn't have enough funds to implement it fully. It's a constant struggle, fulfilling our mandate, while making sure that our cash advances don't erode our profitability. Sometimes, it's frustrating, but budget constraints are part of any job, so we just do the best we possibly can with what we have.

*What is the legacy you want to leave?*

Helping Landbank to return to the mandate will always be what I'm proudest of, and I hope the bank continues to do so. We've really expanded our loan portfolio to our priority sectors, from 32 percent in 2000, to 46 percent, and I'm hoping we can hit 55 percent by the end of the year.

I'm also hoping the bank continues to maintain its record of increasing profitability. From a level of P509 million in 2000, we've gone up to P1.5 billion in 2001, P1.65 billion in 2002. We're targeting 1.8 billion by the end of this year.

If we remain successful on those two points, then my wish list would also include the improvement of our services through increased automation and improved training. Even if it is a government institution, Landbank is and should remain competitive.

*What would you consider your most memorable experience here at Landbank?*

My arrest last year. It was the first time I was arrested, so that's certainly memorable! Also, I never anticipated the public's response. Many people were outraged at the way I was arrested, and their expression of support was heartwarming.

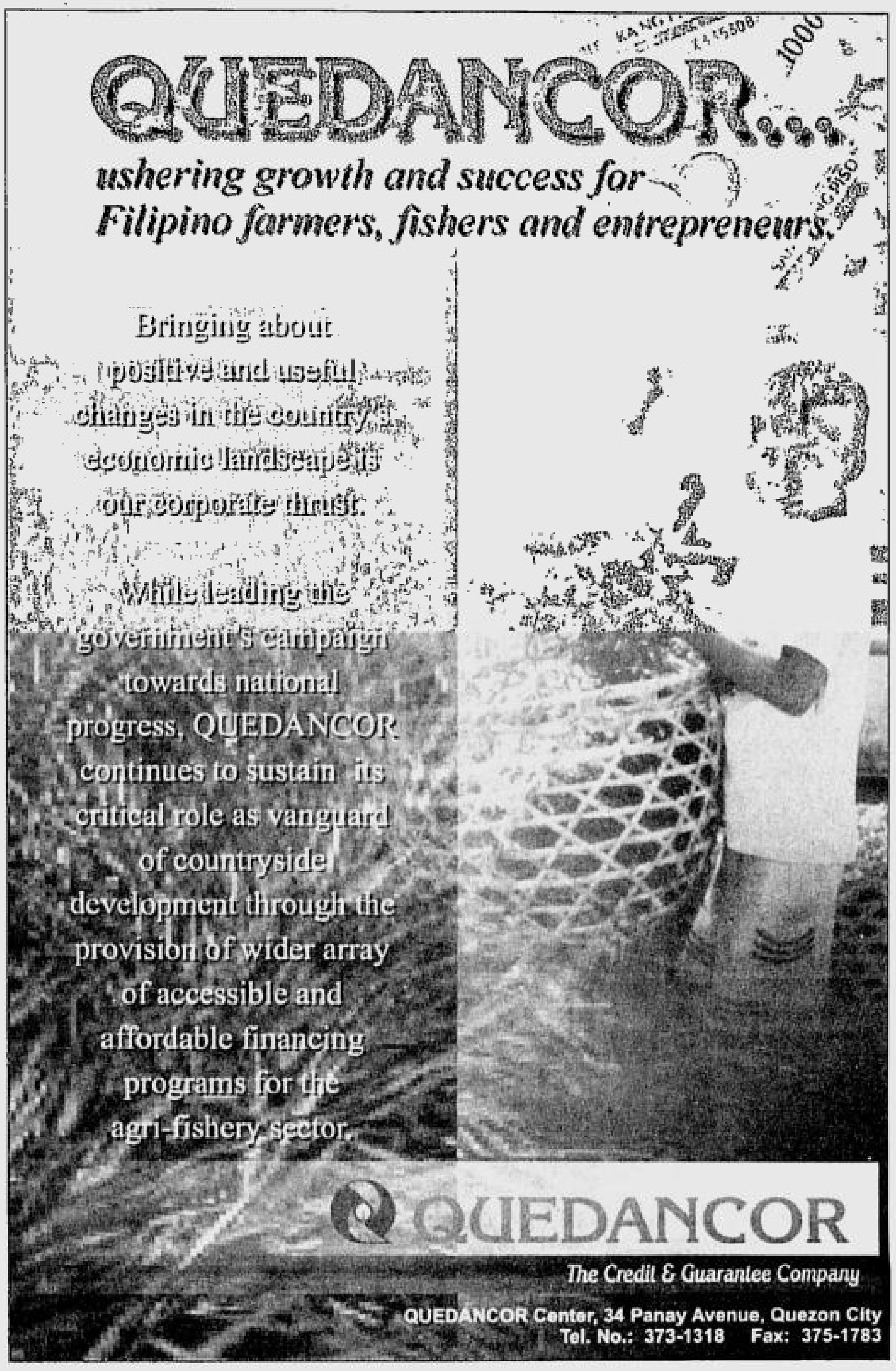
More importantly, the incident made the public aware of a very important issue-the plight of the farmers. The incident encouraged the DAR and the Supreme Court to re-examine rules of land valuation for agrarian reform and halt the excessive demand for payment, which would have jeopardized the entire agrarian reform program.

*What will you miss the most when your term is over?*

I'll certainly miss the support of the staff. I've enjoyed interacting with them, and learned just as much from them as I hope they learned from me. I encouraged independent thought and decision-making, and now they often make the decisions for me. Of course, I'll try to modify a little bit; I have to contribute my 10% (laughs)!

I'll also miss interacting with clients-the farmers and fisher folk, the coops, the small and micro entrepreneurs, LGUs, rural banks, I'll miss them all.

**GARY V. Teves, president and CEO of Landbank. Instrumental in bringing back Landbank to its original mandate at the same time, sustaining its financial viability.**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Bringing about positive and useful changes in the country's economic landscape is our corporate thrust.
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# Landbank. . .

From page D2

net surplus increased by 195 percent. Today, the coop's members total 637. Its total assets as of end-2002 amounted to P38.7 million, while loan portfolio reached P29.6 million.

### Nueva Vizcaya Alay Kapwa Multi-Purpose Cooperative

*Solano, Nueva Vizcaya*

The coop took roots in the small town of Solano, Nueva Vizcaya. In 1975, 15 schoolteachers organized the cooperative, pooling an initial fund of P2,000.

By 1986, it earned its first million. As growth in assets and membership continued, the coop's operations expanded.

The coop has grown to its current size of 10,500 members composed primarily of farmers, teachers, housewives, government employees, businessmen and other local folks. Its assets amounted to P224 million by end 2002 with a share capital of P71 million.

The co-op provides livelihood trainings and projects to jobless members of the community and supports projects like environmental protection, tree planting, feeding program and anti-rabies vaccination programs. It also has a scholarship program that benefits street children.

### Novaliches Development Cooperative

*Novaliches, Quezon City*

Fifteen meat vendors started the coop when the slaughterhouse where they get their meat was closed. It experienced a number of birth pains, but rather than be put down by these problems, they were challenged to make it work. True enough, it grew to become a strong organization. In 1989, it inaugurated its own four-storey building. Nine years later, a second six-storey building was built.

To date, the co-op's products and services include health and medical services, mutual benefit services, savings products, loan products, consumer retail and merchandising, and educational services. It has launched and implemented their housing project, microfinance project, and livelihood program.

The coop now has 6,727 regular members and 3,169 associate members in its roster, covering 40 barangays in the cities of Quezon and Caloocan. Its assets total to P318.3 million and paid-up capital, P142 million.

### San Dionisio Credit Cooperative

*San Dionisio, Paranaque City*

In 1961, 28 civic-spirited individuals formed a credit union with the assistance of Jesuit priests Walter Hogan, Gaston Duchesneaue, and Francis Witizilae. The objective was simple: they wanted to help the community get forward and out of its backwardness.

The coop worked against many odds: lack of finances, lack of vision and a disinterested community. But the organizers persisted. And it proved capable of providing services, gradually expanding its membership.

Today, the coop's area of operations includes four barangays in San Dionisio. As of end-2002, it had 8,124 regular members and 7,444 associate members. Its total assets had reached P213.2 million, and its paid-up capital amounted to P89.1 million.

While credit is its main business, it also offers a wide range of financial and social services, including housing, savings deposit, mutual aid plan, appliance financing, entrepreneurship services, cooperative education for its members and for other co-ops, and co-op promotion and assistance for budding co-ops.

### Five Star Savings & Credit Cooperative

*Gamu, Isabela*

The organizers are members of the 5th Infantry Division based in Central Luzon. The Cooperative had nine cooperators and 150 original members who put up the P45,000 authorized capital.

The coop encountered problems that nearly led to its extinction.

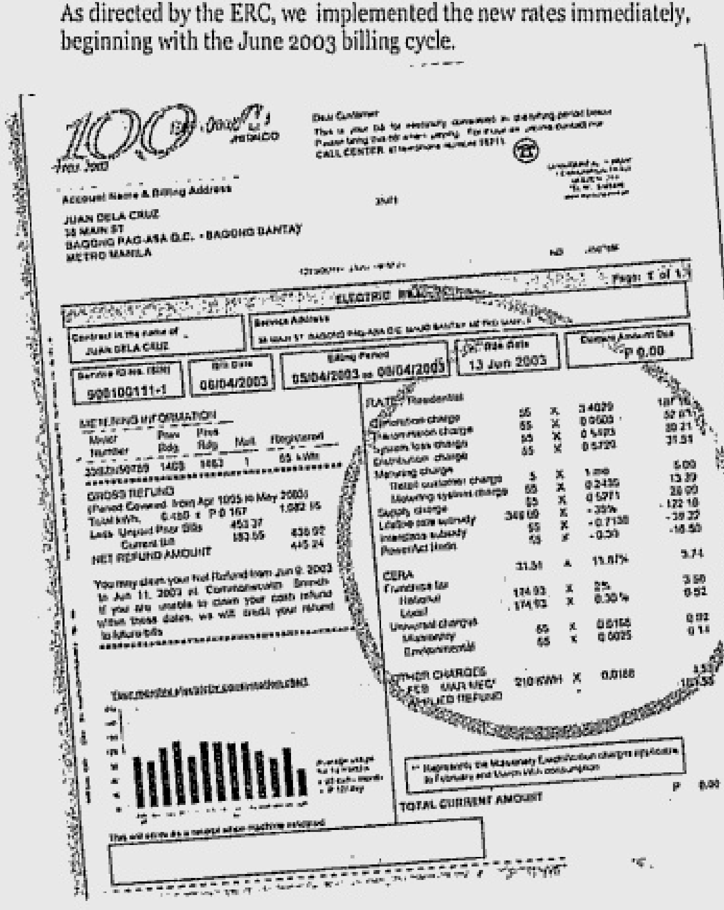
But new life was breathed into it through the diligence and persistence of then Army Major Artemio Jose whose vast experience in managing financial resources, coupled with his leadership skills, steered the co-op's continued growth. In three year's time, its resources grew to P3 million.

It later widened its membership in the community to include civilians. Today, 40 percent of its 10,000 members throughout the country are non-military personnel, including housewives, small entrepreneurs and the youth. The coop now has branches nationwide serving 37 municipalities and 147 barangays. As of end-2002, its assets totals P82 million; paid up capital, P41 million; and networth, P 49 million.

Indeed, it has emerged as one of the more progressive cooperatives in the country.

Where does your Meralco bill payment go?

On May 30, 2003, the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) approved the unbundling of Meralco's rates. The approval came after more than three years of regulatory evaluation, including 55 public hearings participated in by 18 organizations and interested parties. As directed by the ERC, we implemented the new rates immediately, beginning with the June 2003 billing cycle.



The unbundling of your Meralco bill complies with Section 36 of Republic Act 9136 or the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA) of 2001. Unbundling or itemizing your bill according to cost and function makes it easy to see how much of your payment goes to Meralco - which remains a power distribution company - and how much goes to 'pass-through' charges, or charges that Meralco collects for the government and power suppliers or power-generating firms.

We see this as a positive, forward-looking step, as this creates more transparency and encourages greater accountability in the power industry.

PASS-THROUGH CHARGES

These are charges that Meralco has to collect for and pay to government and other service providers.

▲ Generation Charge

This is for the cost of power generated and sold to Meralco by our suppliers, presently the National Power Corporation (NPC) and Independent Power Producers (IPPs).

▲ Transmission Charge

This is for the delivery of electricity from generators, usually in remote areas or provinces, to the distribution system of Meralco. This goes to the National Transmission Company (TransCo), a company spun off from NPC.

▲ System Loss Charge

This represents recovery of the cost of power lost due to technical and non-technical system losses This is set at a maximum of 9.5%, as provided for by Republic Act 7832.

▲ Franchise Tax

Private utility companies are required to pay national and local franchise taxes: 2% of gross revenues goes to the national government as national franchise tax, while a range of 0.05% up to 0.75% of gross revenues goes to local government units in the form of local franchise tax

▲ Universal Charge

This is a non-bypassable charge remitted to the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM), owned and controlled by the government, and created by Republic Act 9136. Part of this is now in your Meralco bill as missionary electrification and environmental charges.

▲ Lifeline Discount / Lifeline Subsidy

The EPIRA (Section 73) provides that residential customers consuming less that 100 kWh in a given month will enjoy a Lifeline Discount to be applied to the total of the generation, transmission distribution, supply, metering and system loss charges at these percentages:

- Using 50 kWh and below will get 50% discount on the above charges
- Using 51 to 70 kWh will get a 35% discount on the above charges
- Using 71 to 100 kWh will get a 20% discount on the above charges

The discounts will be funded by a Lifeline Subsidy charge of P 0.0761 per kWh, to be paid by all other customers.

▲ Interclass subsidy

The unbundled rates also identify subsidies being enjoyed or provided by the various customer categories of Meralco. All residential customers will enjoy a subsidy of P0.7130 per kWh consumed. This subsidy will be funded by a charge to be paid by commercial and industrial establishments.

MERALCO CHARGES

▲ Distribution Charge

This is the cost of building, operating and maintaining the distribution system of Meralco, which brings power from high-voltage transmission grids, to commercial and industrial establishments, to residential end-users.

▲ Metering Charge

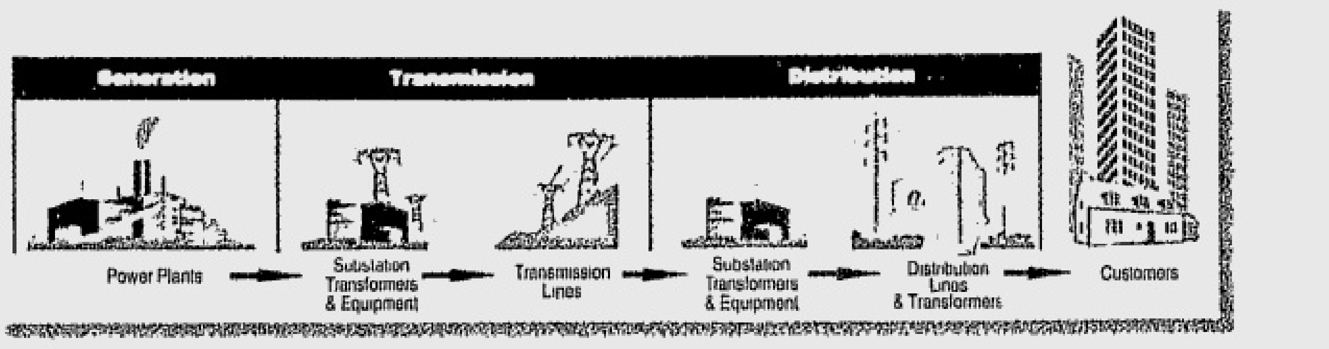
This includes the cost of reading and operating and maintaining of power metering facilities.

▲ Supply Charge

This includes the cost of rendering service to customers, such as billing, collection, customer assistance and associated services

▲ Currency Exchange Rate Adjustment (CERA)

This covers adjustments for unavoidable fluctuations in the Philippine Peso-U.S Dollar exchange rate.

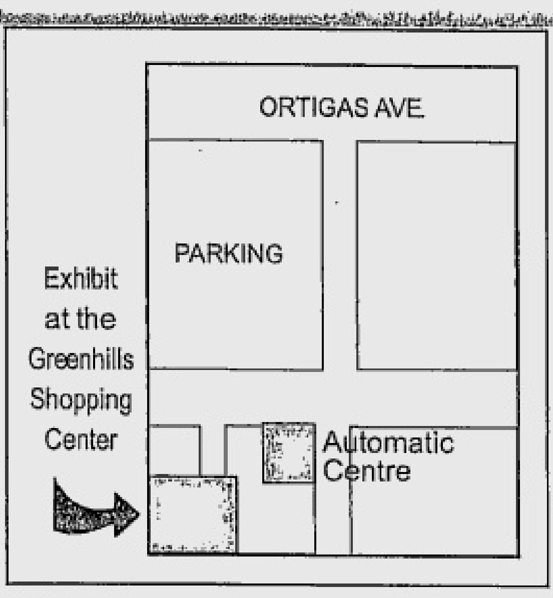

Generation
Transmission
Distribution
Power Plants
Substation Transformers & Equipment
Transmission Lines
Substation Transformers & Equipment
Distribution Lines & Transformers
Customers

# Automatic CENTRE

# Greenhills Appliance Fair

## OPENS TODAY

## 0% INTEREST



## ON ALL ITEMS, ALL BRANDS, ALL MODELS

### Thru Citibank PayLite.

THE WEATHER has been fickle nowadays, but whether it drizzles or the sun shines brightly, it would surely be raining home appliances and home entertainment systems with the 0-percent interest on all items, all brands, all models thru Citibank Paylite at **"Automatic Centre's Greenhills Appliance Fair."**

Yes, it's like buying in cash but not paying everything at once!

The appliance exhibit, which opens today, is **Automatic Centre's** tie-up with Citibank Paylite. And with 0-percent interest promotions usually offered only for selected items elsewhere, shoppers at the fair would be in for a an amazing treat because they can avail of the 0-percent interest offer up to 12-months term. Now, isn't that more convenient!

GREENHILLS/B15

KEY LIGHTING KEYBOARD
Only from CASIO

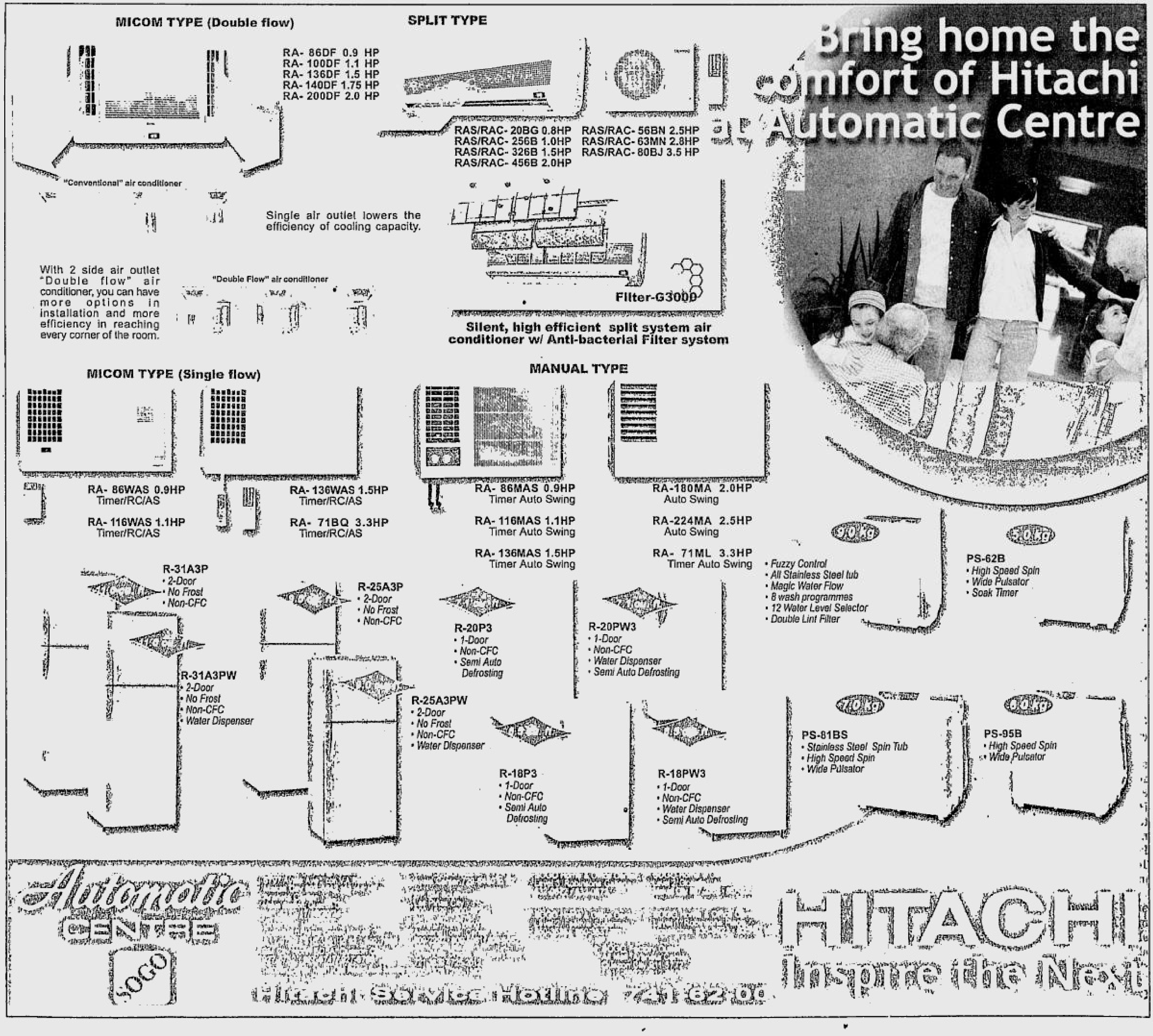
Don't just play, SING ALONG!

LK-55

- 3 advanced 3-step lesson
- Vocal & on-screen evaluation
- sing-along feature

LK-55 is not just a keyboard. Play and Sing with the whole family.

Also available CTK-591


Bring home the comfort of Hitachi at Automatic Centre

**MICOM TYPE (Double flow)**

RA- 86DF 0.9 HP
RA- 100DF 1.1 HP
RA- 136DF 1.5 HP
RA- 140DF 1.75 HP
RA- 200DF 2.0 HP

"Conventional" air conditioner

Single air outlet lowers the efficiency of cooling capacity.

With 2 side air outlet "Double flow" air conditioner, you can have more options in installation and more efficiency in reaching every corner of the room.

"Double Flow" air conditioner

**SPLIT TYPE**

RAS/RAC- 20BG 0.8HP
RAS/RAC- 256B 1.0HP
RAS/RAC- 326B 1.5HP
RAS/RAC- 456B 2.0HP
RAS/RAC- 56BN 2.5HP
RAS/RAC- 63MN 2.8HP
RAS/RAC- 80BJ 3.5 HP

Filter-G3000

Silent, high efficient split system air conditioner w/ Anti-bacterial Filter system

**MICOM TYPE (Single flow)**

RA- 86WAS 0.9HP
Timer/RC/AS

RA- 116WAS 1.1HP
Timer/RC/AS

RA- 136WAS 1.5HP
Timer/RC/AS

RA- 71BQ 3.3HP
Timer/RC/AS

**MANUAL TYPE**

RA- 86MAS 0.9HP
Timer Auto Swing

RA- 116MAS 1.1HP
Timer Auto Swing

RA- 136MAS 1.5HP
Timer Auto Swing

RA-180MA 2.0HP
Auto Swing

RA-224MA 2.5HP
Auto Swing

RA- 71ML 3.3HP
Timer Auto Swing

**R-31A3P**
- 2-Door
- No Frost
- Non-CFC

**R-31A3PW**
- 2-Door
- No Frost
- Non-CFC
- Water Dispenser

**R-25A3P**
- 2-Door
- No Frost
- Non-CFC

**R-25A3PW**
- 2-Door
- No Frost
- Non-CFC
- Water Dispenser

**R-20P3**
- 1-Door
- Non-CFC
- Semi Auto Defrosting

**R-20PW3**
- 1-Door
- Non-CFC
- Water Dispenser
- Semi Auto Defrosting

**R-18P3**
- 1-Door
- Non-CFC
- Semi Auto Defrosting

**R-18PW3**
- 1-Door
- Non-CFC
- Water Dispenser
- Semi Auto Defrosting

9.0 kg
- Fuzzy Control
- All Stainless Steel tub
- Magic Water Flow
- 8 wash programmes
- 12 Water Level Selector
- Double Lint Filter

5.0 kg
**PS-62B**
- High Speed Spin
- Wide Pulsator
- Soak Timer

7.0 kg
**PS-81BS**
- Stainless Steel Spin Tub
- High Speed Spin
- Wide Pulsator

6.0 kg
**PS-95B**
- High Speed Spin
- Wide Pulsator

Automatic CENTRE
SOGO

[illegible]

Hitachi Service Hotline 741 62 00

HITACHI
Inspire the Next

# Automatic CENTRE

# EDSA CENTRAL

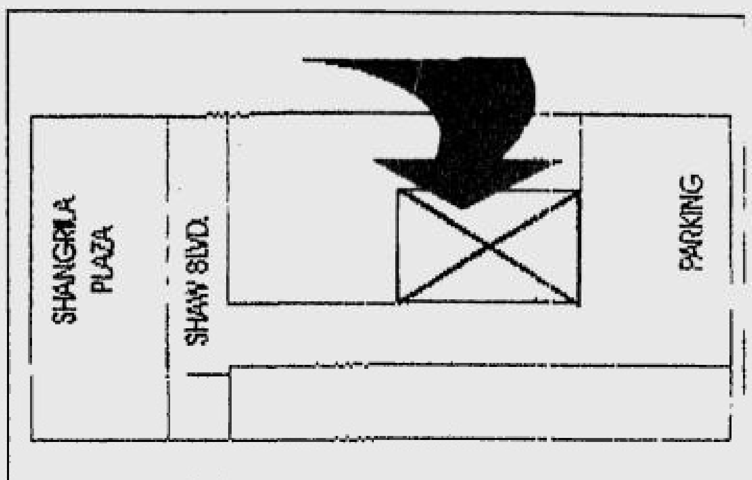
## NOW OPEN TO SERVE YOU

WIDE selection of appliance brands can be had now at the recently opened **Automatic Centre** outlet located at Edsa Central, Shaw-Crossing in Mandaluyong City.

The latest addition to the appliance dealer's growing network of stores, **Automatic Centre Edsa Central** began serving the public last Aug. 3. The branch is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Shoppers can enjoy **Automatic Centre's** zero-percent interest on all items, all brands, all models thru Citibank Paylite at the said branch.

For inquiries, you may call 683-0891, 683-0547 or 683-0654.



**Shaw - Crossing, Mandaluyong City**

### Music-making fun at home

A WHOLE new world of possibilities for musical expression is unfolding. And key industry players , like Casio Music Circle ( CMC ) in the Philippines, are not missing a beat, presenting quality product offerings, coupled with music-related activities and events.

Unlike before when simple listening to or learning music leaves a learner sighing for more, learning to play an electronic musical instrument now entails a very short learning curve. It can also spell pure enjoyment, or an accumulation of delightful moments shared with family or friends. CMC puts pulsating excitement and extra verve to learning through the latest technological wizardry which CASIO is known for.

The Casio Electronic Keyboard with a rich built-in collection of 100 songs is one such versatile piece of musical wizardry which allows even new learners to create their own music in few a simple steps. Being easy to learn and master, love for music need not be limited to simply listening to music alone. Even youngsters can easily engage in sophisticated performing and composing activities, things which were once only accomplished after years of study. Especially true for most Filipinos who always want to keep connected to the music they love, singing and playing along with a musical instrument becomes at pleasurable group or family activity.

In households where the musical component or karaoke has secured advantage position, the Casio Keyboard LK-55 makes a worthy musical item. The LK-55 offers a fuller experience than the traditional karaoke, without limiting listeners to computer-crafted tunes that sound lame. It offers ease of use and versatility by allowing users to play various musical instruments ranging from percussions and woodwind to strings and even the entire orchestra. The Keyboard LK-55 is equipped with a sing-along function, and comes with an interactive Advanced Lesson System and piano-mode function with crisp "stereo piano sound." There are 100 songs consisting of 50 sing-along and 50 piano songs which are a delight to share with others. A three-step lesson system will enable you to master the timing of melody notes, the correct melody keys, and normal speed playing in no time at all.

For further details and inquiries, call up Casio Music Circle at tel. no. 705-1519 or Casio Showroom at tel. no. 806-6521.

### SOME OF THE PARTICIPATING BRANDS IN GREENHILLS APPLIANCE FAIR

BLIMS
Carrier
CHANGHONG
CONDURA
ELBA
HITACHI
HYUNDAI
JVC
Kelvinator
KOLIN
KONKA
LG
laGERMANIA
National
Omron
Panasonic
Pioneer
PHILIPS
SAMSUNG
SHARP
SONY
TOSHIBA
Whirlpool
White-Westinghouse

# 0% INTEREST STORM

## UP TO 12 MOS. TERM

S.I.P.
MAD ESCAPE
Earn a raffle coupon for every P3,000 S.I.P. purchase, and get a chance to WIN 1 of the 3 FORD ESCAPE!

IN ADDITION to the latest promotions being offered by **Automatic Centre**, shoppers may visit **"Automatic Centre @ Ayala 0-% Interest Storm"** at its outlet in Ayala Avenue.

The fair, which runs until Aug. 16, is a tie-up with BPI credit cards and is in celebration of the branch's 2nd year anniversary. Customers may also win in the SIP Raffle Promo with a minimum of P3,000 purchase.

BPI Credit Cards, S.I.P.

**2nd Anniversary offer of**
**Automatic Centre @ Ayala,**
**Ayala Avenue cor.**
**V.A. Rufino St., Makati City**

## Greenhills ...

From page B14

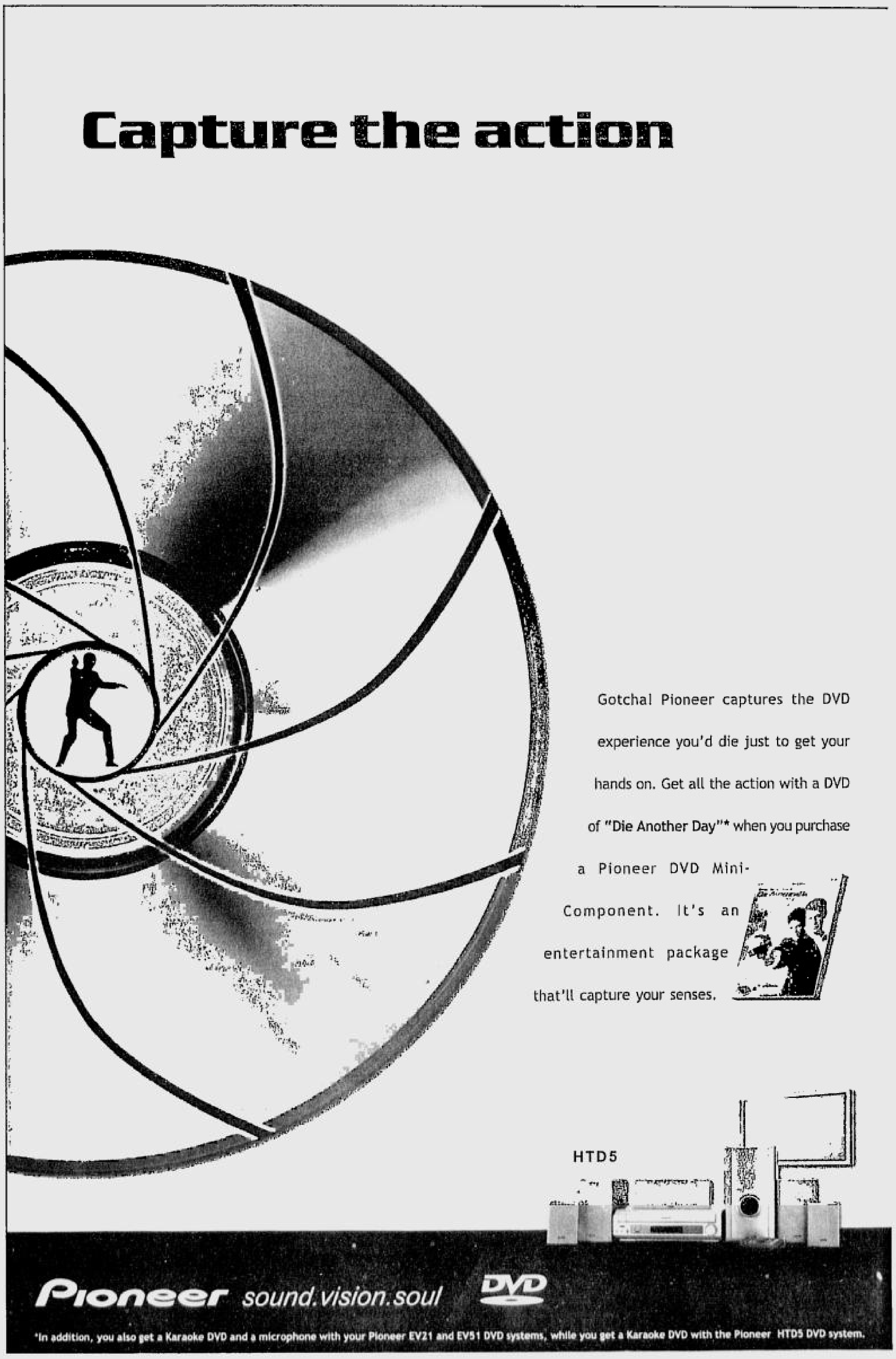
The appliance fair is located at the Greenhills Shopping Center, where appliance fairs have been an annual event every August. This year though, it is **Automatic Centre** which is managing the event.

With an extensive array of top appliance brands and models, shoppers can choose from Carrier, Changhong, Condura, Elba, Hitachi, Hyundai, JVC, Kelvinator, Kolin, Konka, LG, La Germania, National, Panasonic, Philips, Pioneer, Samsung, Sharp, Sony, Toshiba, Whirlpool, White-Westinghouse and many more brands.

The Citibank 0-percent interest on all items, all brands and all models promo is also available at all Automatic Centres outlets and all Sogo Home and Office Center stores.

Best of all, with **Automatic Centre's Money-Back Guarantee**, you're price-protected for 14 days from the date of purchase. If within two weeks from your purchase date you find the same item offered at a lower price somewhere else, the price difference would be refunded to you. Also with **Automatic Centre**, you're assured that the most affordable cash prices are offered on all appliances on display. And with the **Warranty Plus** option, you can extend your appliance's one-year factory warranty up to five years. Pay only once and choose the additional coverage you want.

You may also avail of the convenience offered by the **Replacement Advantage** program on small appliances for a low one-time minimal fee. Essentially, should your appliance need servicing after its original one-year warranty expires, it will be replaced with a brand new item!


Capture the action

Gotcha! Pioneer captures the DVD experience you'd die just to get your hands on. Get all the action with a DVD of "Die Another Day"* when you purchase a Pioneer DVD Mini-Component. It's an entertainment package that'll capture your senses.

HTD5

Pioneer sound.vision.soul DVD

*In addition, you also get a Karaoke DVD and a microphone with your Pioneer EV21 and EV51 DVD systems, while you get a Karaoke DVD with the Pioneer HTD5 DVD system.

# 25th Anniversary CarWorld, Inc.

CarWorld, Inc.
MITSUBISHI MOTORS

## Messages

MY warmest felicitations to the management and employees of Carworld, Inc. on the occasion of your 25th Anniversary.

This event reinforces the positive signals about the economy, in line with our thrust to create a vibrant business environment. May you continue to contribute to our goal of generating employment and a better life for our people through enhanced economic activity and a dynamic business climate.

In working for the growth of the automotive industry, I hope that you will be motivated by a commitment to our common goal of conquering poverty and building a strong and progressing republic.

Mabuhay

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines

OUR warmest greetings to the management and staff of Carworld, Inc. on its 25th Anniversary Celebration on July 31 at the Laus Group Corporate Center in San Fernando, Pampanga.

It is heartening to note that Carworld, Inc., the flagship firm at the Laus Group of Companies, has successfully explored the business potentials in the growth area of Central Luzon for the last 25 years and provided corporate leadership and innovation in customer excellence in the region. This is a shining testimony on the viability and vibrancy of countryside commerce.

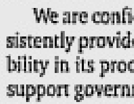
We are indeed pleased that a local company has emerged to be one of the biggest provincial Mitsubishi dealership in Asia. This is a strong manifestation of the Filipino's competitive nature, unwavering determination and forward-looking attitude which are essential factors in propelling us to global excellence.

We are confident that Carworld, Inc. will continue to pursue its commitment to consistently provide its clientele with the highest standards of quality, efficiency and reliability in its products and services. Furthermore, we count on the company to actively support government efforts in enhancing the general welfare and standard of living of the community as it has previously done during the devastating period of lahar that has besieged the region.

To Carworld, our sincere congratulations and best wishes for continuing growth and prosperity.

Mabuhay!

MAR ROXAS
Secretary
Department of Trade and Industry



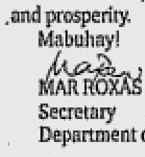
ON this occasion, I join the men and women of Carworld, Inc. as they observe their 25 anniversary today.

Special events such as your silver anniversary, indeed, a cause for celebration. This milestone in the company's corporate life attests to Carworld's reliability and quality service.

I, therefore, congratulate Levy P. Laus, chair and CEO of the Laus Group of Companies for steering Carworld to new heights over the past years. May you and your people continue to display the same enthusiasm, dedication and hardwork to sustain the organization's reputation as a highly esteemed distributor of Mitsubishi vehicles.

Mabuhay kayong lahat.

MANUEL M. LAPID
Governor
Province of Pampanga



LET me kindly extend my warm congratulations to the hardworking men and women of Carworld Philippines as you celebrate 25 years of performing a job well done.

There are many reasons why Carworld is one of the country's leading car dealers. But for now, may I focus on one and that reason is all about hard work.

In a world that is obsessed with shortcuts and easy profit, Carworld has maintained its steady investment on honest hard work. The exemplary success of this business institution was founded and continually sustained on the hard and honest labor of everyone involved. From the chair of the board to the newest account executive, it is quite clear that everybody tows the line.

But I also cannot help but mention one another reason for the success story, and that is the foresight of your leading light and founder, Levy Laus. In matters of business and administration, very few can equal the foresight of Caroworld's main man.

Hard work and foresight - two big reasons that explain the running plot of a big success story.

I wish all of you in Carworld the best of luck and may you inspire us with bigger success stories in the future.

OSCAR S. RODRIGUEZ
Representative
Third District of Pampanga

I CONVEY my warmest felicitations to Carworld, Inc. on the celebration of their 25th year anniversary.

What is paramount to our country and region is to carry our province to the next plateau of development, that of economic steadiness and progress. I therefore commend the people of Carworld, Inc. who have been models of harmonious business relations and who have made significant contributions in the economic development here in the region of Pampanga. I hope that you will continue to be partners in both our province's further development.

I wish this event every success and urge Carworld, Inc. to help our nation towards greater progress, prosperity and stability.

JUAN MIGUEL M. ARROYO
Vice Governor

# A car world that conquered the countryside— and beyond

'I believe in the potential of the countryside. We have shown to the people here that we can deliver the same kind of world class service, that we have the skill and competitiveness of any successful business in the Metropolis or elsewhere'—Levy Laus

**By Raquel P. Gomez**

WITH its bright new look and expanded showroom space, Carworld Inc. in San Fernando City, Pampanga is an eye stopper for motorists cruising the San Fernando-Olongapo (GSO) highway.

One can't help but take a peek into the elegant display of gorgeous Lancer sedans, Adventure AUVs, and Strada pickups inside the glass-paneled showroom.

Carworld's impressive stature, however, rests not only in its eye-catching showroom, but also in its tremendous economic-even historic import-to its home city and province.

Since it was established along the GSO road, Carworld has helped in changing the landscape of the area into that of a robust business district. That geographic expanse where Carworld rises eminently is the busiest intersection in the North when it comes to the number of establishments and companies operating there.

In an area of 13,000 square meters that covers a corporate headquarters, showroom and a service center, Carworld runs and operates one of the most successful and prestige-laden Mitsubishi cars dealerships in the country.

### A fruitful partnership

For Levy Laus, chairman and CEO of the Laus Group of Companies (LGC), the business group that eventually emerged from Carworld's business growth and corporate reputation, partnership is part of its success formula.

"Our partnership with Mitsubishi Motors has been very fruitful," he said.

"Mitsubishi Motors has been very supportive of us and we're happy with its products, which are excellent products. The partnership has always been mutually beneficial. As Mitsubishi grows, we also grow," said Laus.

Carworld, Inc. started its operations on July 25, 1978. It initially took off as an allied dealer selling different brands available in the market. In 1985, Carworld partnered with the then Philippine Automotive Manufacturing Corp., now Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC), and thus it was awarded the franchise to sell Mitsubishi cars in Central Luzon.

From a humble beginning, Carworld has grown to become the biggest provincial dealer of Mitsubishi Motors Philippines today. Apart from its corporate home and its biggest facility in San Fernando City, Carworld also has branches in Malolos and Marilao in Bulacan, Tarlac City and Olongapo City.

With a total asset of close to P500 million, it consistently ranked in the list of the country's top 500 corporations. It has a market share of 30 percent in Central Luzon-and growing.

For a countryside business, Carworld is a "phenomenal" success. The success of the company paved the way for the establishment of 11 new companies that complemented the core business of car dealership-all under the LausGroup, which serves as a dominant and respected frontrunner in countryside business development and growth in Central Luzon.

"You can just imagine how big the LausGroup is now," said Laus, referring to the 800-plus strong employees under the business group's wing and the opportunities it has spawned in the area.

CARWORLD top brass, (from left) Epifacio I. Simbulan, EVP-Comptroller, Frank de Jesus, President; Levy P. Laus, Chair and CEO; and Romeo M. Sanchez, First Vice President, sales

### The sign of goodwill

Laus was having a successful career as a commercial bank manager before he went into the car business 25 years ago. He was, in fact, due for promotion and transfer to Manila. But the idea of staying with his new family in his San Fernando hometown was more of a priority to him than moving up in the banking ladder.

That's when he decided to take a new career path: automotive business.

At the time, his parents owned a popular tailoring and haberdashery store called Laus Men's World Tailoring and Haberdashery and a dry goods store in a public market in San Fernando. The term "Carworld" was, therefore, essentially a borrowed name from the Laus family's tailoring business.

"Laus Mensworld was a first-class store and had legions of customers not only from San Fernando but from other towns. When I was looking for a term for the new company, I wanted to get some goodwill generated by our store, that's why I called the dealership Carworld," said Laus.

"To me and my family, automotive was a complete stranger. We were into tailoring and dry goods selling. Our basic knowledge of cars then would be like anybody else's-we were fond of cars," said Laus.

There were only five employees when Laus started Carworld. Given the size and number, Laus was the "sales and general manager, accountant, salesman, and administrator all rolled into one." Today, Carworld has 215 employees in five dealerships in four provinces in Central Luzon.

### Swimming against the tide

Yet, when Carworld was launched in 1978, it wasn't even a good year for the car industry. It was, according to Laus, a crisis period. He described the early years of Carworld's operation as "swimming against the tide." Carworld was initially selling cars as an allied dealer; it got its products from franchised dealers.

"With a limited (car) market, there were already competitors," said Laus. "To a certain point, we were disadvantaged because we were just a sub dealer. What helped us was our being a native of San Fernando and the family's other ventures provided us with some leads to prospective car buyers. That was our good head start."

Laus said that it was a combination of his experiences-basic knowledge of entrepreneurship, formal education, and an eight-year stay with the bank that somehow helped him "grow" the company and establish a market for Mitsubishi cars in the North.

In the 1980s a "boom" was experienced by the company and soon began expanding and opening other Carworld in other areas.

However, with success came also struggles. Carworld, being in the part of Luzon affected by natural calamities and economic crises, also had to go through the critical period.

### Filling out the need

"We have gone through crisis after crisis," said Laus, referring to the Mount Pinatubo explosion and the yearly flooding and lahar avalanche that affected Pampanga. But we took these as challenges."

The Carworld office in San Fernando, Pampanga,

A CAR WORLD B17

# A car world that conquered the countryside—and beyond

From page B16

even became the war room of sorts for government officials and local leaders at the height of the Pinatubo devastation in the early '90s, to map out strategies for lahar-related problems. And even when other business started to fold up and leave, Carworld opted to stay and even expand and rebuild facilities.

"People had wondered why during those crisis period, we were actually building a new store, expanding or investing. But when investors shy away, they actually give the business to you. They get out and you are there so why not take advantage of the vacuum. Fill out the need."

Carworld's growth and success are attributed to its consistent focus on a "personalized" type of service, geared ultimately towards customer satisfaction, a business mantra and philosophy that people at Carworld- and the Laus Group, for that matter-have imbibed as best corporate practice. Laus, in his usual self-effacing manner, credited this customer orientation to his banking background.

"We have excellent sales people and good facilities that translate into customers being happy when they do business with us. When they buy a car, they are assured of an after sales service. We take good care of our customers and I think that's our strength," said Laus.

### Premium on employees

"We're quite unique too," added Laus. "Many car dealerships would rely on salesmen to generate sales. In our case, we just have our house sales consultants and our customers are becoming 'repeat' or 'loyal' customers. And they do refer other customers to us."

The other side of Carworld's success lies in its people, who are all locals, the implementation of new systems and further improvement of existing facilities, according to Franco de Jesus, Carworld president. He said the company puts a "premium" on the personal development and training of people.

"For example, aside from the continuous training of our people, we are now in the process of completing an integrated computerized system to improve our efficiency towards customer satisfaction," he said. "We are really investing on these because we believe in the purpose of our organization."

Today Carworld is a healthy homegrown organization that contributes greatly to economic growth in Central Luzon. It's very much involved and active in the community, giving not only job opportunities but also providing civic and corporate contributions.

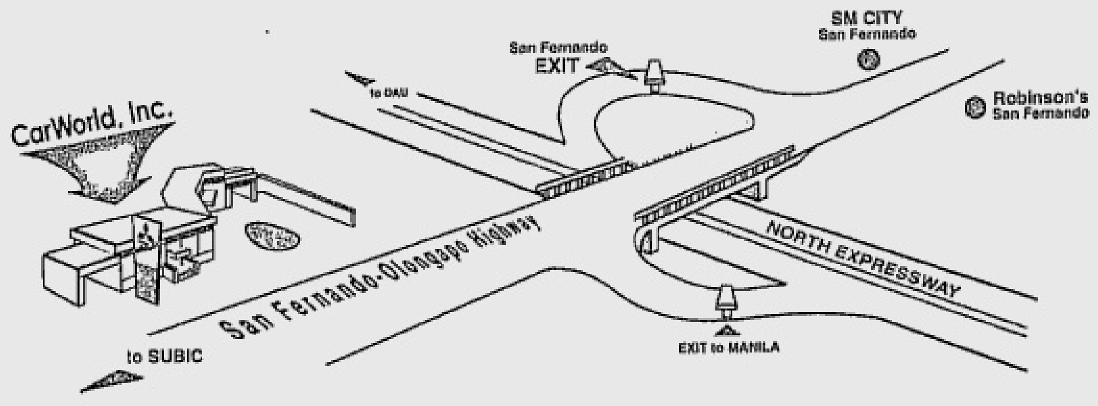
It has set up a foundation that sends local students to college and eventually hires them. It is among the top taxpayers in the country.

"I believe in the potential of the countryside," said Laus. "We have shown to the people here that we can deliver the same kind of service, that we have the skill and competitiveness of any successful business in the Metropolis or elsewhere."

Welcome to our New Showroom Facilities, San Fernando, Pampanga

CarWorld, Inc.
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
CarWorld, Inc.
Service

*Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corporation congratulates CarWorld, Inc. on the opening of its New Showroom Facilities in San Fernando, Pampanga.*



CarWorld, Inc.
San Fernando-Olongapo Highway, City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. No.: (045) 963-1111

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp.

# BUSINESS

## ICC approves phase 1 of North Rail project

**By Elena R. Torrijos**

THE CABINET-LEVEL Investment Coordination Committee led by the National Economic Development Authority recently approved phase 1 section 1 of the North Rail Project worth $503 million.

This is expected to give passengers a faster and more efficient mode of transportation and spur economic development in Central and Northern Luzon.

Phase 1 section 1 of the project will cover 32.138 km of rail track from Caloocan City to Malolos, Bulacan. It will use an abandoned Philippine National Railways line parallel to the North Luzon Expressway.

The project will also involve the establishment of six stations in Caloocan, Valenzuela, Marilao, Bocaue, Guiguinto and Malolos.

The project will involve the reconstruction and conversion of the existing PNR track into double track, construction of the six stations, land acquisition, procurement of 30 4-car train sets, and provision of train control and signaling system.

Jonathan Uy, director the Neda public investment office, said the ICC had proposed that $395.224 million, or 79 percent of the project cost, be financed through Official Development Assistance in the form of supplier's credit.

He said North Rail would have to finance the remaining $107.819 million or 21 percent of the project cost through commercial loans.

LOSING HAIR?
What are YOU going to do about it?

If your hair is receding, thinning or falling out, worrying about it won't solve it. Ignoring your condition will only make it worse. Covering it up with a cap or a comb-over will make it obvious that you're hiding you're baldness. The best thing that you can do? **SAVE YOUR HAIR** with expert advice and effective solutions from **Svenson International.**

**ENDING HAIR LOSS**
Our highly effective treatments are proven to eliminate **Dihydrotestosterone** (the main cause of baldness) and to accelerate the process of hair regrowth.

*FREE* **Consultation!**
Our consultants are highly trained trichologists (hair experts) who will thoroughly examine your hair and scalp FOR FREE.

**SOLVING BALDNESS**
Unlike fake-looking wigs and ill-fitting toupees, Svenson's non-surgical hair replacements are the most advanced of its kind. Its natural appearance and texture will give you the same look and feel of your own hair.

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## Call center industry seen tripling capacity

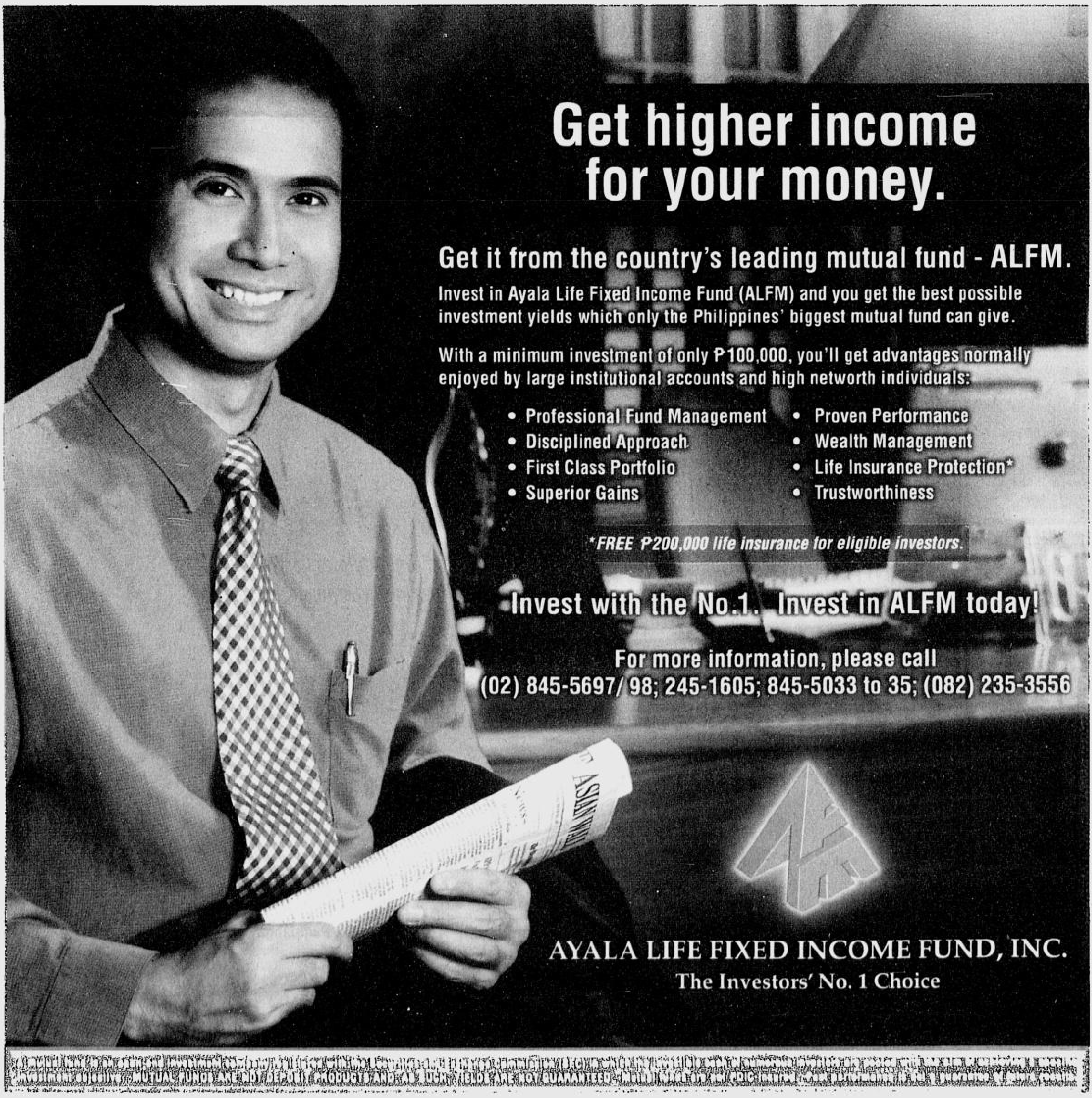
**By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.**

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo said the country's call center capacity should triple to 60,000 seats within the next 12 months based on the number of foreign investments in the pipeline for this fast-growing service industry.

In a speech during the E-Service Forum sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry, Ms Macapagal said that once the call center industry grows from 20,000 seats to 60,000 by next year, the country would have a "proportionately bigger" offshore call center industry than India.

"India has 100,000 call center seats but it has a population of 1 billion but we will have 60,000 call center seats with only 80 million people," the President said.

Due to the growing importance of the call center industry in generating investments and providing new jobs for the country, the President said her government would focus on further developing the country's edge in this sector—the Filipino knowledge worker—by enhancing Philippine education standards specifically in English, Math and Science.



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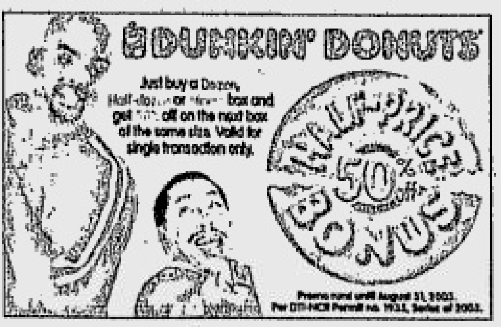
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BONNEVIE just wants to move on

# I want public apology from Mother Lily, says Dina's manager

MONTEVERDE. "Call the managers"

By Nini Valera

MOVIE producer Lily Monteverde must apologize publicly to actress Dina Bonnevie for yanking her out of the movie "Mano Po 2" where she would have played the plum role of Belinda, the third wife of a Chinese partriarch portrayed by Christopher De Leon.

Mother Lily should also pay Dina in full for her contract to do the movie even if she is no longer in the cast.

Dina's manager Arnold Vegafria is demanding these of the Regal Films matriarch after the actress was not given the third wife's role, which went to award-laden actress Lorna Tolentino over the weekend.

"I'm asking for a public apology from Mother Lily because she caused us embarrassment," he said in Pilipino on Monday night. "Mother Lily should say something. We (Dina) came out the loser in this situation. We lost a movie, we lost the chance to work in another movie because we turned down an offer from Viva. I think Vic Del Rosario wanted Dina for his film fest movie. But I told him my priority was 'Mano Po' because we had already signed the contract."

Arnold said only an apology would regain Dina's and his dignity.

"To compensate, I want Mother to apologize to us in public, to tell the truth (about her decision), to tell (the public) what really happened," he stressed.

## Lolit's threat

What really happened according to Arnold was that he and Dina, and even Mother Lily, became hostage to Lolit Solis' threat that she would pull out her talent Christopher from "Mano Po 2" if Lorna did not get the role she wanted to portray. Lolit is the manager of both Christopher and Lorna.

In a press statement, Arnold, quoting "Mano Po 2" supervising producer Manny Valera, said: "The producers claimed they cannot risk losing Mr. De Leon, since his non-inclusion would eventually cause a 'snowball effect' and lead to the possible resignation of the other major stars as well. In fact, Ms Dolor Guevarra, representing Ms Susan Roces, likewise stated that Ms Roces would back out of the project should Boyet decide to back out.'"

In an interview with INQUIRER Entertainment also last Monday night, Lolit admitted that she told everybody concerned with "Mano Po 2" that she would pull out Christopher from the movie if Lorna were not given the first choice in the role she wanted to play.

"I said this during the pictorial," said Lolit

I WANT/ C6

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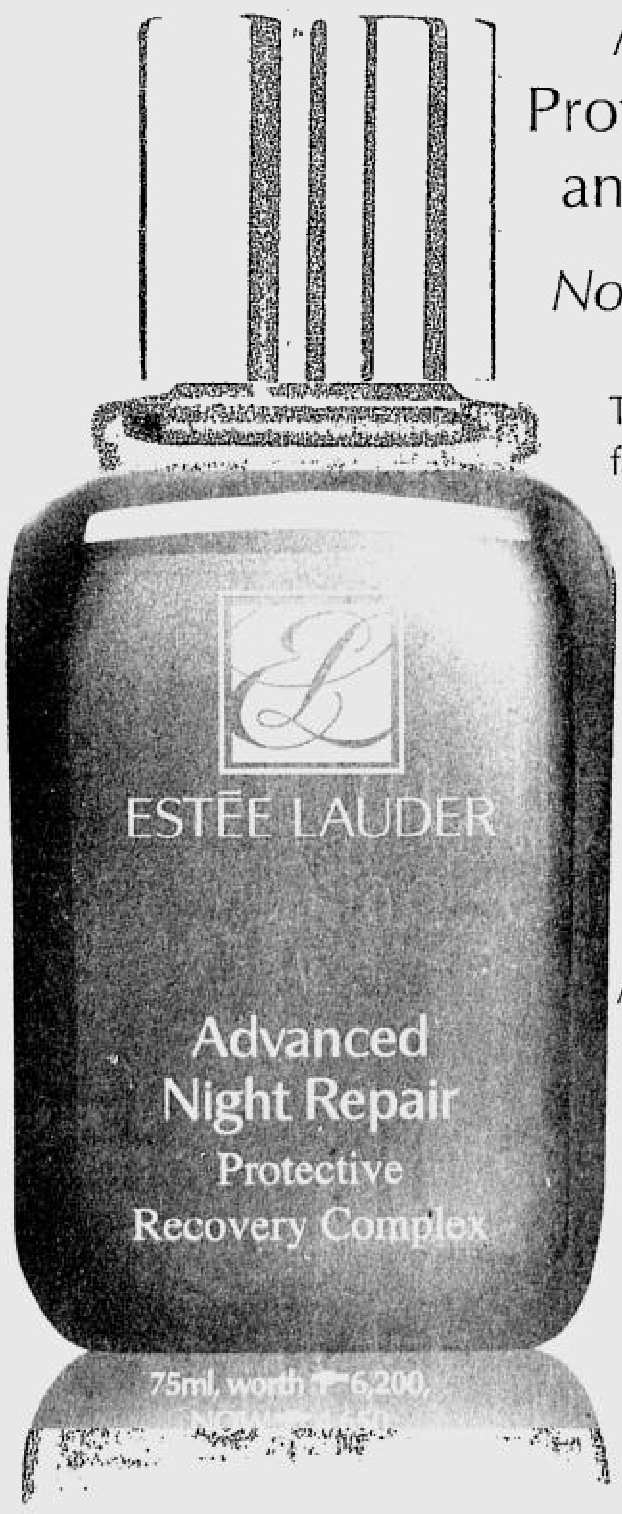

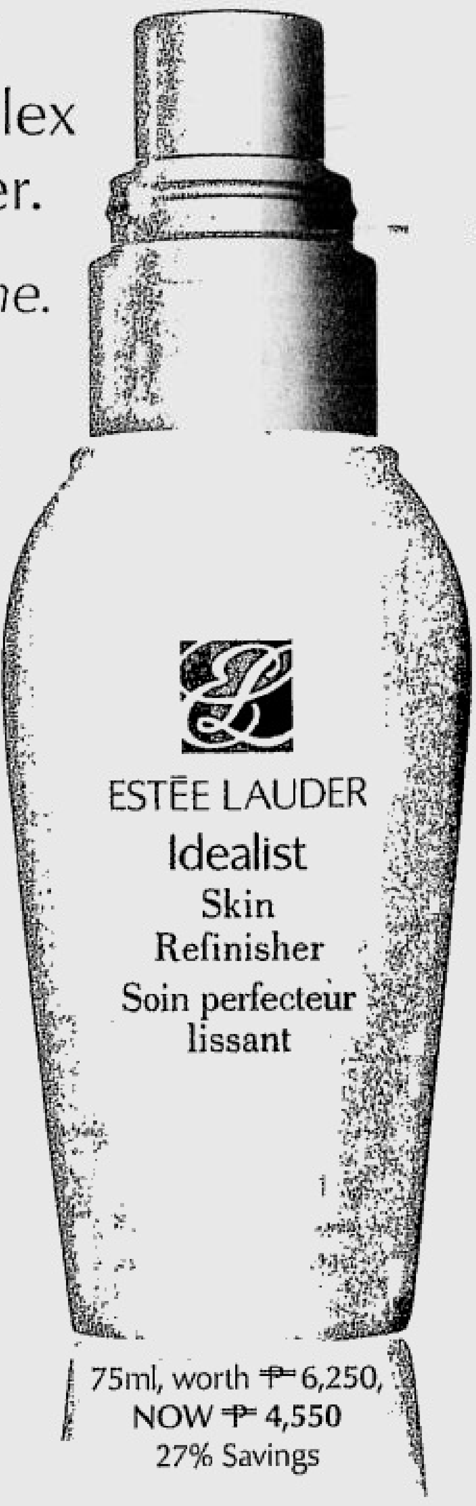

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| 2 THE IN-LAWS | 2 BULLETPROOF MONK | 2 BAD BOYS II<br>11:30 2:30 5:30 8:30 | GUARANTEED SEATS<br>THX 2 BAD BOYS II<br>12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 8:45, 11:30 | 2 TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| 3 TOMB RAIDER 2 | GUARANTEED SEATS<br>THX 3 TOMB RAIDER 2<br>12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 | Onstage<br>APO HIKING SOCIETY & HOTDOG -BACK2BACK<br>Aug. 28 - 9PM | GUARANTEED SEATS<br>3 DOWN W/ LOVE<br>1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30 | 3 THE IN-LAWS |
| 4 BAD BOYS II | 4 MY LITTLE EYE |  | GUARANTEED SEATS<br>4 BULLETPROOF MONK<br>12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30 | 4 DOWN W/ LOVE |
|  | 5 HOLES |  | GUARANTEED SEATS<br>5 TOMB RAIDER 2<br>1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50 | 5 BULLETPROOF MONK |
|  | 6 BAD BOYS II |  |  |  |
|  | 7 DARKWATER |  |  |  |

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| 5 GOLD (DOLBY EX) | THE IN LAWS |
| 6 GOLD (SDDS) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 7 GOLD (DOLBY EX) | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 8 | DOWN WITH LOVE |
| 9 | DARK WATER |
| 10 | TERMINATOR - 3 |

### Pearl Plaza Cinemas
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| 1 | RESERVE |
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| 3 (DTS) | RESERVE |
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| 3 | TOMB RAIDER-2 |

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| 2 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 3 | SNAKE LADY |
| 4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 5 | MOTEL |

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| 2 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 3 | SNAKE LADY |
| 4 | MOTEL |
| 5 | THE IN LAWS |
| 6 | BAD BOYS-2 |

### M Star
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|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 2 | BANGKOK HAUNTED |

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(Makati City) TEL. 893-4225, 892-2503

**BAD BOYS-2**

### Center Plaza Cinema
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|---|---|
| 1 | TERMINATOR -3 |
| 2 | MASAMANG UGAT |

### FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL INC
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3

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|---|---|
| 1 | |
| 2 | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |

### GOTESCO CINEMA

### Gotesco City
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| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (SDDS) | NAKED WEAPON |
| 4 | RESERVE |
| 5 | SNAKE LADY |
| 6 | MOTEL |
| 7 (DTS) | THE IN LAWS |
| 8 (SDDS) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 9 (DOLBY) | BULLET PROOF MONK |

### Gotesco Caloocan
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| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | RESERVE |

### Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MOTEL |
| 2 | TERMINATOR-3 |
| 3 | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 4 (SDDS) | RESERVE |
| 5 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 6 (DOLBY) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 7 (DTS) | NAKED WEAPON |
| 8 | SNAKE LADY |
| 9 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |

### Gotesco Commonwealth
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| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |
| 2 (SDDS) | BANGKOK HAUNTED |
| 3 (DTS) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 4 (DOLBY) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 5 | MOTEL |

### Gotesco Ortigas
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|---|---|
| 1 | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 2 | RESERVE |
| 3 (DTS) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 4 | MOTEL |
| 5 (SDDS) | NAKED WEAPON |

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|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS-2 |

### Sampaguita
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|---|---|
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|---|---|
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| 2 | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 3 | MOTEL |
| 4 | RESERVE |

### Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 2 | THE IN LAWS |
| 3 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 4 | MOTEL |
| 5 | NAKED WEAPON |

### FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | RESERVE |
| 2 | RESERVE |

### Berma Cinema
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| 2 | WISH MASTER |

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|---|---|
| 1 | MOTEL |
| 2 | SNAKE LADY |
| 3 (DOLBY DIGITAL) | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 4 (SDDS) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 5 (DTS) | TOMB RADER-2 |
| 6 | THE IN LAWS |
| 7 | NAKED WEAPON |

### FarmersPlaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821,8242,8400

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | RESERVE |
| 2 | RESERVE |

### CINEMA 2000

### Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
TEL. (049) 837-0826

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SABIK SA PAG-IBIG |
| 2 | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 3 (DTS) | TOMB RADER-2 |

### Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |
| 2 (DTS) | TOMB RADER-2 |
| 3 (DOLBY) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 4 | DUMB & DUMBERER |

### Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | DANCER IN THE DARK |
| 2 (DOLBY) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 3 (DTS) | TOMB RADER-2 |
| 4 | DUMB & DUMBERER |

### Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | IMPOSTOR |
| 2 | TOMB RADER-2 |
| 3 (DOLBY) | TERMINATOR-3 |
| 4 | |

### Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 2 | IMPOSTOR |
| 3 (DOLBY) | TERMINATOR-3 |
| 4 (DTS) | TOMB RAIDER-2 |

### Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 2 (DTS) | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 3 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |

### Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (SDDS) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 2 | SUGAT |
| 3 (DTS) | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |
| 4 | WILD BUTTERFLY |

### Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 2 | SEX & ZEN-2 |
| 3 (DTS) | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 4 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |
| 5 | CONFESSIONS OF A DANGER MIND |

### Olivarez Tri-Cinema
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|---|---|
| 1 | UNFAITHFUL CONCUBINE |
| 2 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |
| 3 | |

### Olivarez Los Baños
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| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 2 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |
| 3 | UNFAITHFUL CONCUBINE |

### Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | DOWN WITH LOVE |
| 2 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 3 (DTS) | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 4 | BULLET PROF MONK |

### Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DTS) | RESERVE |
| 2 | RESERVE |

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(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

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|---|---|
| 1 | SABIK SA PAG-IBIG |
| 2 | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 3 | RESERVE |

### Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0798

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SABIK SA PAG-IBIG |
| 2 | BULLET PROF MONK |
| 3 | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 4 | BANGKOK HAUNTED |

### Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 TO 03

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|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY EX) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 2 | SA PILING NG MGA BELLAS |
| 3 (DTS ES) | TOMB RAIDER-2 |
| 4 | DANCER IN THE DARK |

### Cine Nepo Mall
(Angeles City) te (045) 887-0121

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | IMPOSTOR |
| 2 | PIGLET THE MOVIE |
| 3 (DOLBY) | BAD BOYS-2 |
| 4 (DTS) | TOMB RAIDER-2 |

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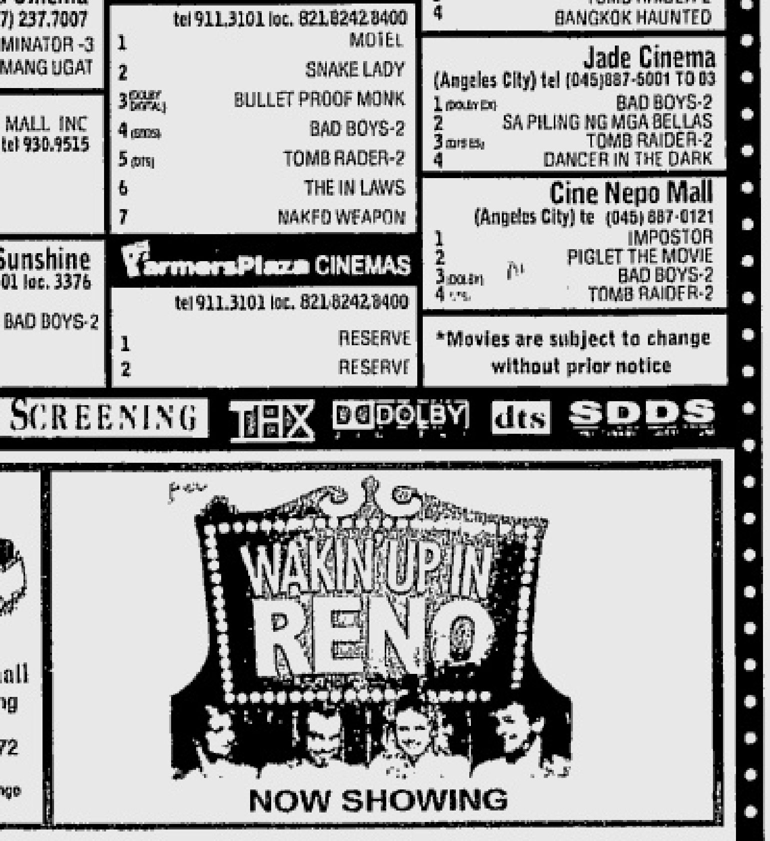

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| 8 | TERMINATOR 3 |

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| 1 | NAKED WEAPON |
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| 6 | SNAKE LADY |
| 7 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 8 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 9 | IN-LAWS |
| 10 | LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN |

### SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MOTEL |
| 2 | TERMINATOR 3 |
| 3 | SA PILING NG MGA BELYAS |
| 4 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 5 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 6 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 7 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 8 | IN-LAWS |
| 9 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 10 | LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN |
| 11 | LLIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 12 | DARK WATER |

### SM CITY MANILA
5239240

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 2 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 3 | MY LITTLE EYE |
| 4 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 5 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 6 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 7 | MOTEL |
| 8 | SNAKE LADY |
| 9 | DARK WATER |
| 10 | BANGKOK HAUNTED |
| 11 | TERMINATOR 3 |
| 12 | IN-LAWS |

### SM MEGAMALL
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| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | TERMINATOR 3 |
| 3 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 4 | BULLETPROOF MONK 2 |
| 5 | MY LITTLE EYE |
| 6 | HOLES |
| 7 | DARK WATER |
| 8 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 9 | IN-LAWS |
| 10 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 11 | SNAKE LADY |
| 12 | MOTEL |

### SM CITY NORTH EDSA
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| 1 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 2 | TERMINATOR 3 |
| 3 | MOTEL |
| 4 | NAKED WEAPON |
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|---|---|
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| 2 | SNAKE LADY |
| 3 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 4 | IN LAWS |
| 5 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 6 | TERMINATOR 3 |
| 7 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 8 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 9 | DARK WATER |
| 10 | MOTEL |

### SM CITY CEBU
2313878

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | TERMINATOR 3 |
| 2 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 3 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 4 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 5 | DUMB & DUMBERER |
| 6 | SABIK SA PAG-IBIG |
| 7 | IMPOSTOR |
| 8 | BAD BOYS 2 |

### SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | DEATH WATCH |
| 2 | RESERVED |
| 3 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 4 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 5 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 6 | BANGKOK HAUNTED |
| 7 | RESERVED |
| 8 | MASAMANG UGAT |

### SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 2 | DEATH WATCH |
| 3 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 4 | SABIK SA PAG-IBIG |
| 5 | IMPOSTOR |
| 6 | BAD BOYS 2 |

### SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | IN-LAWS |
| 2 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |
| 3 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 4 | MOTEL |

### SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | IN-LAWS |
| 3 | MOTEL |
| 4 | BULLETPROOF MONK |

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2976998

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|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | DEATH WATCH |
| 3 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 4 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| 5 | DUMB & DUMBERER |
| 6 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |

### SM BICUTAN
776-3055

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | MOTEL |
| 3 | IN-LAWS |
| 4 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |

### SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
859-2884

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | DOWN WITH LOVE |
| 3 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 4 | TOMB RAIDER: CRADLE OF LIFE |

### THE PODIUM CINEMA
18 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center Mandaluyong City
633-8970

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2<br>10:05 FS/10:20 MF/1:15/4:10/7:05/9:40 LFS/10:00 LMF/12:35 END |
| 2 | IN-LAWS<br>10:40 FS/11:10 MF/1:20/3:30/5:40/7:50/9:30 LFS/10:00 LMF/11:40 END |

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| | |
|---|---|
| 1 BAD BOYS 2<br>12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30<br>THX | 4 BAD BOYS 2<br>10:15, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 |
| 2 THE IN-LAWS<br>10:40, 12:55, 3:10, 5:25, 7:40, 10:00 | 5 NAKED WEAPON<br>10:50, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50 |
| 3 BULLET PROOF MONK<br>10:50, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50 | 6 TOMB RAIDER 2<br>11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00 |
| 7 TERMINATOR 3<br>12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 | 9 HOLES<br>11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 |
| 8 MY LITTLE EYE<br>12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 6:40, 9:00 | 10 SNAKE LADY<br>10:50, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50 |

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema / P75 level cinema
Mon.- Fri. / 10am- 4pm ( EXCEPT HOLIDAYS )

### Ermita
536-7809-1

1 THE IN-LAWS 10:15, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40
2 BAD BOYS 2 10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00
3 MIRANDA 10:15, 12:05, 2:00, 3:55, 5:50, 7:45, 9:40
4 MY LITTLE EYE 11:05, 12:55, 2:45, 4:35, 6:25, 8:15, 10:00
5 NAKED WEAPON 10:15, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40
6 BULLET PROOF MONK 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:40
7 TOMB RAIDER 2 10:15, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

### Metro East
Marcos hway
682-8193/828

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | TERMINATOR 3 |
| 2 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 3 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| 4 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 5 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 6 | DANCER IN THE DARK |
| 7 | THE IN-LAWS |
| 8 | SNAKE LADY |

### Novaliches
682-8193/828

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| 2 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 3 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 4 | SNAKE LADY |
| 5 | THE IN-LAWS |
| 6 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 7 | MAGKAPATID/TUXEDO |
| 8 | TERMINATOR 3 |

### Malabon
Citisquare
288-095 257

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MOTEL |
| 2 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 3 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 4 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |

### Star Mills
San Fernando, Pamp
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(045)961-527

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 2 | SABIK SA PAG-IBIG |
| 3 | IMPOSTOR |
| 4 | WILD BUTTERFLY |
| 5 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 6 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |

### Imus
471-818
875-383

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | THE IN-LAWS |
| 3 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 4 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| 5 | NAKED WEAPON |
| 6 | MOTEL |

### Sta. Rosa
Laguna
(049)837-090

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | WILD BUTTERFLY |
| 3 | SA PILING NG MGA BELYAS |
| 4 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| 5 | RING-0 |

### Bacolod
441-0453/045

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 2 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| 3 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 4 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 5 | BANGKOK HAUNTED |
| 6 | MASAMANG UGAT |

### Iloilo
336-8077-7

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| 2 | LIZZIE MCGUIRE |
| 3 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| 4 | BANGKOK HAUNTED |
| 5 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| 6 | DEATHWATCH |

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# Male contestants' turn to shine

**VIEWFINDER**

*Nestor U. Torre*

LAST year, Viva's singing tilt on ABC-5 was dominated by female contestants, most of them adolescents and teenagers. We speculated that the apparent preference for young female singers was due to the notion in these parts that female singing talents are easier to build up, and enjoy more profitable careers.

We thought that this was unfair to male auditionees, some of whom must be similarly blessed with outstanding singing talent, so we complained in print. Later, the show featured more male contestants, and a few of them even made it to the grand finals.

This year, Viva's singing tilt has moved to GMA-7 and has been retitled "Search for a Star," and we're happy to note that it's gotten over its perceived bias against male singers. In fact, the guys have been doing very well indeed on the show. 2003 is turning out to be their turn to shine. Some weeks ago, a male singer made it as a monthly champion. And, last Saturday, another guy won the weekly competition. In both instances, we correctly guessed that they would emerge as winners, because they had their own, unique vocal styling that made them stand out.

The monthly champion was a particularly interesting and instructive "test case," because not only was he male, but he wasn't all that young, and didn't come across as crooner-handsome.

But those usually "negative" factors were precisely what enabled him to make a stronger impression than his female rivals, who pretty much tended to hew close to the same, traditional "chanteuse," "belter" and "diva" modes.

As a result, they looked and sounded pretty much the same, while the male contestant came off as one-of-a-kind, and romped away with the monthly prize.

The same thing happened in the weekly competition last Saturday, where the lone male contestant proved to be a more interesting performer than the two women he was competing against.

If this trend holds up in the coming weeks and months, Viva's talent search this year should turn out to be more eventful than its 2002 edition. That's all to the good, because excitement, not *plakado* predictability, is what we need in local entertainment.

Things will also be fairer all around, and male singers will no longer have any reason to complain that they're being discriminated against.

And it can prove to be profitable for Viva and other entertainment producers. We've talked to some bigwigs in local music, and they say that they're having a hard time discovering outstanding male singers who can take over as singing stars when the likes of Martin Nievera and Gary Valenciano decide to take a breather from their performing careers.

Well, as "Search for a Star" continues to provide a showcase for talented male as well as female singers, it may discover those new male singing stars that the local entertainment scene so urgently needs.

## Benefit concert

On Aug. 27, the 75th birthday of Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, a special benefit concert, "Serviam" ("I will serve"), will be held at Araneta Coliseum. Proceeds will help Cardinal Sin's favorite beneficiaries -- Caritas Manila, the youth, seminarians and catechists.

There will be three performances of "Seriam," at 10 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. The concert celebrates the cardinal's vision for the Filipino people, and what he has been working and living for all these years.

Leo Rialp is in charge of the production, with Ed Nepomuceno as musical director. Performers include Ces Quesada, Nova Villa, Ai Ai de las Alas, Jamie Rivera and Jose Mari Chan.

## Vocal recital

Baritone Joseph David Legaspi flies to the States this month to continue his music studies at the University of Indiana on a merit scholarship. Prior to his departure, Legaspi will be featured in a vocal recital at Abelardo Hall at UP Diliman at 7 p.m. on Aug. 8.

The farewell concert has a varied repertoire, ranging from classical to contemporary pieces. Aside from his solo numbers, Legaspi will be singing duets and ensemble pieces with other artists.

Performing with him on Aug. 8 are pianist Filmer Flores, soprano Katrina Saporsanto, cellist Niño Llorin and the Ateneo Chamber Singers. Call David at 0920-840-1110.

### DID YOU KNOW...

When **Gary Valenciano** celebrated his birthday on ABS CBN's "ASAP Mania" last Sunday and he sang "Warrior is a Child," **Claudine Barretto** was seen sobbing in one corner of the studio. She apparently remembered her late boyfriend **Rico Yan**, who died in his sleep in April 2002 in a resort in Palawan. During the necrological services, Gary V sang the same inspirational song. A production assistant had to pull Claudine into the dressing room so the studio audience wouldn't see her. It took a while before she could face the cameras again.

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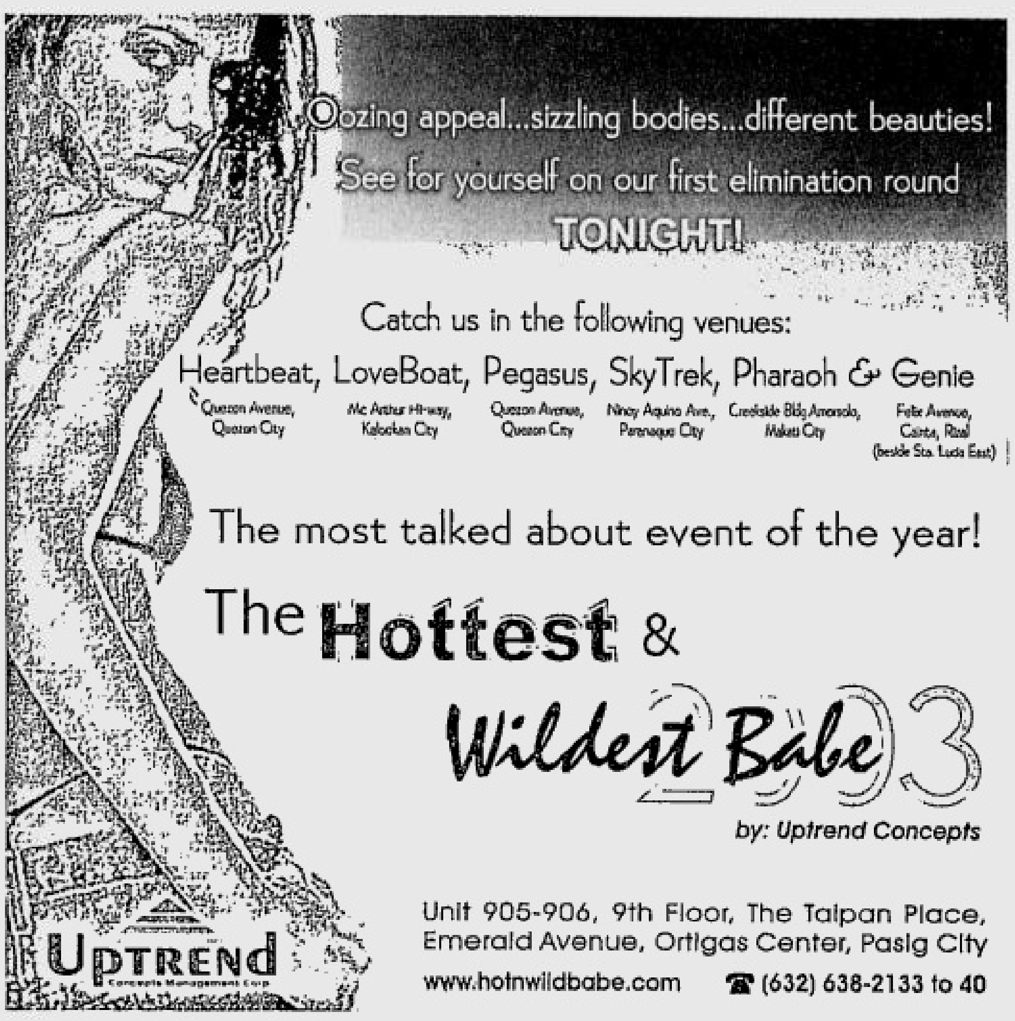
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# Paolo Santos, Pido in PDLT bar tour

**SHOW TIME**

ACOUSTIC music is at its height these days, its popularity surpassing pop, folk, ethnic and even rock music. One combination that is also very popular today is the tandem of Paolo Santos and Pido with Take One.

Santos' falsetto perfectly matches Pido's rhythm and blues style, producing a unique blend of music. The professional respect of the two artists for each other is felt in their performance.

Every Wednesday starting Aug. 6, PLDT, in celebration of its seventh anniversary, is sponsoring a bar tour that will showcase this unique pairing.

The bar tour kicked off at the Hard Rock Café in Makati.

Succeeding performances will be at the Podium at the Ortigas Center on Aug. 13, Rastky's Malate on Aug. 20, Dish in Makati on Aug. 27 and Ratsky's Tomas Morato in Quezon City on Sept. 3.

Expect a new and fresh experience in terms of repertoire in this bar tour.

As an added treat, an exclusive CD recording of the acoustic classic "Whenever I Call You Friend," performed by Paolo Santos and Pido, will be given away to hundreds of lucky fans who will watch any of the shows.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

| | |
|---|---|
| Ali 1 | MOTEL |
| Ali 2 | SNAKE LADY |
| Ali 3 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| Ali 4 | BAD BOYS 2 |
| Ali 5 | BULLET PROOF MONK |
| Ali 6 | IN-LAWS |
| Ali 7 | NAKED WEAPON |

ARANETA COLISEUM

| | |
|---|---|
| AUG 09 | UAAP GAMES/ 2ND ROUND |
| AUG 16 | UAAP GAMES/ 2ND ROUND |
| AUG 17 | UAAP GAMES/ 2ND ROUND |
| AUG 24 | UAAP GAMES/ 2ND ROUND |
| AUG 28 | UAAP GAMES/ 2ND ROUND |
| AUG 30 | UAAP GAMES/ 2ND ROUND |
| Opens December 2003 | DISNEY ON ICE Featuring "Beauty & The Beast" |

## THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

| MANILA | |
|---|---|
| EASTERN | |
| MAXIM | CLOSED |
| MIRAMAR | SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA |
| ODEON | X-MEN 2 |
| ODEON-2 | BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN |
| ROBEN | BOLD STAR |
| TANDEM-1 | SUGAT |
| TANDEM-2 | KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO |
| TIMES | SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE |
| **QUEZON CITY** | |
| ACT-1 | SENSUAL ISLAND |
| ACT-2 | KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT |
| ACT-3 | ORIGINAL SIN |
| ACT-4 | HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY |
| CORONET A | MOTEL |
| CORONET B | A MAN APART |
| QUEZON-1 | BERTUD NG PUTIK |
| REMAR | X-MEN 2 |
| REMAR-2 | BOLD STAR |
| **NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA** | |
| A | MOTEL |
| B | SNAKE LADY |
| C | |
| **MANDALUYONG CITY** | |
| SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL | 635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70 |
| CINEMA-1 | CLOSED FOR RENOVATION |
| CINEMA-2 | CLOSED FOR RENOVATION |
| **CAINTA RIZAL** | |
| STA. LUCIA EAST | (681-5401 TO 19) |
| CINEMA-1 | SABIK SA PAG-IBIG |
| CINEMA-2 | MOTEL |
| CINEMA-3 | SA PILING NG MGA BELYAS |
| CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) | BAD BOYS 2 |
| CINEMA-5 (DTS) | TERMINATOR 3 |
| CINEMA-6 | LIGAYA PANTASYA NG BAYAN |
| CINEMA-7 | SENSUAL ISLAND |
| CINEMA-8 | MASAMANG UGAT |
| CINEMA-9 (DTS) | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL) | BAD BOYS 2 |
| CINEMA-11 (SDDS) | THE IN-LAWS |
| CINEMA-12 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| CINEMA-14 | SNAKE LADY |
| CINEMA-15 | NAKED WEAPON |
| **LORES** | |
| CINEMA-2 | SENSUAL ISLAND |
| CINEMA-3 | KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT |
| **NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN** | |
| CINEMA 1 | LIZZIE McGUIRE |
| CINEMA 2 | TOMB RAIDER 2 |
| CINEMA 3 | DOWN WITH LOVE |
| CINEMA 4 | BULLETPROOF MONK |
| **UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL** | |
| (PARAÑAQUE) | SENSUAL ISLAND |
| CINEMA-1 | KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT |
| CINEMA-2 | MEN IN BLACK II |
| CINEMA-4 | SELDA |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CINEMA 1 | BAD BOYS 2<br>10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00<br>R13 | CINEMA 2 | THE IN-LAWS<br>11:45, 2:00, 4:15, 6:30, 8:50<br>PG13 |

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| AUG 19. 2003 | MAYA LEE IN CONCERT | 8:30PM |

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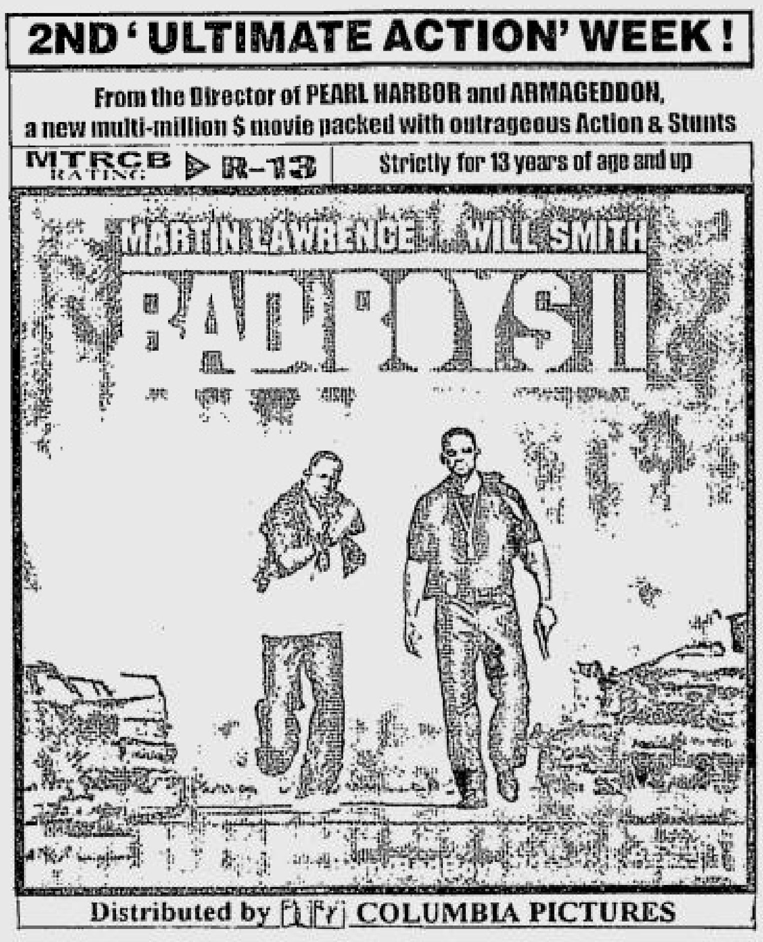
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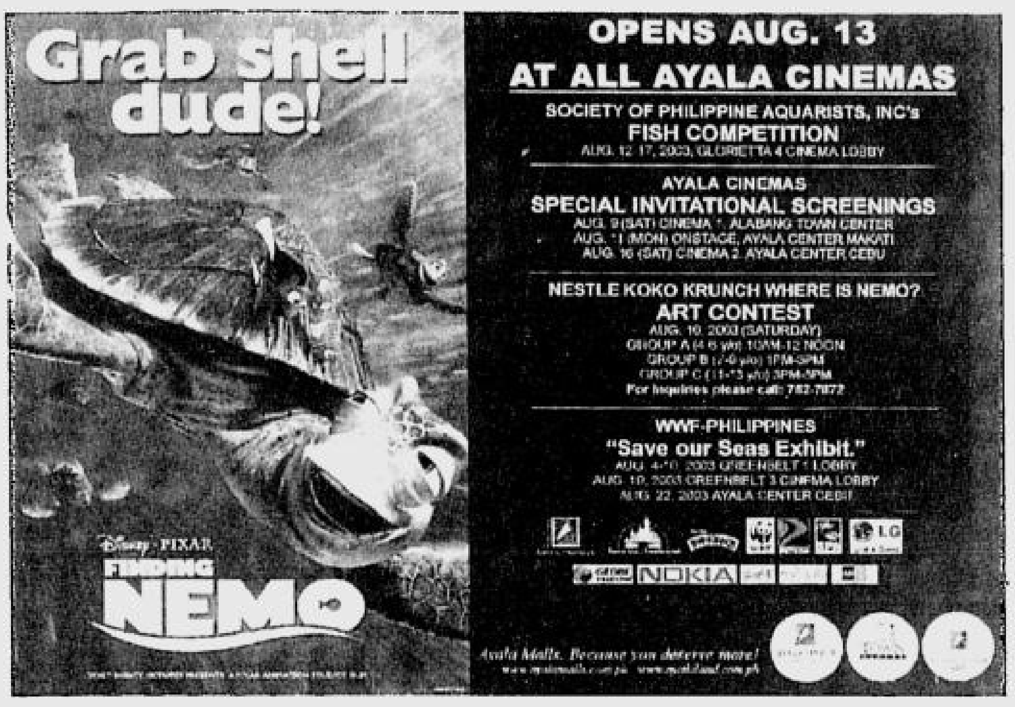
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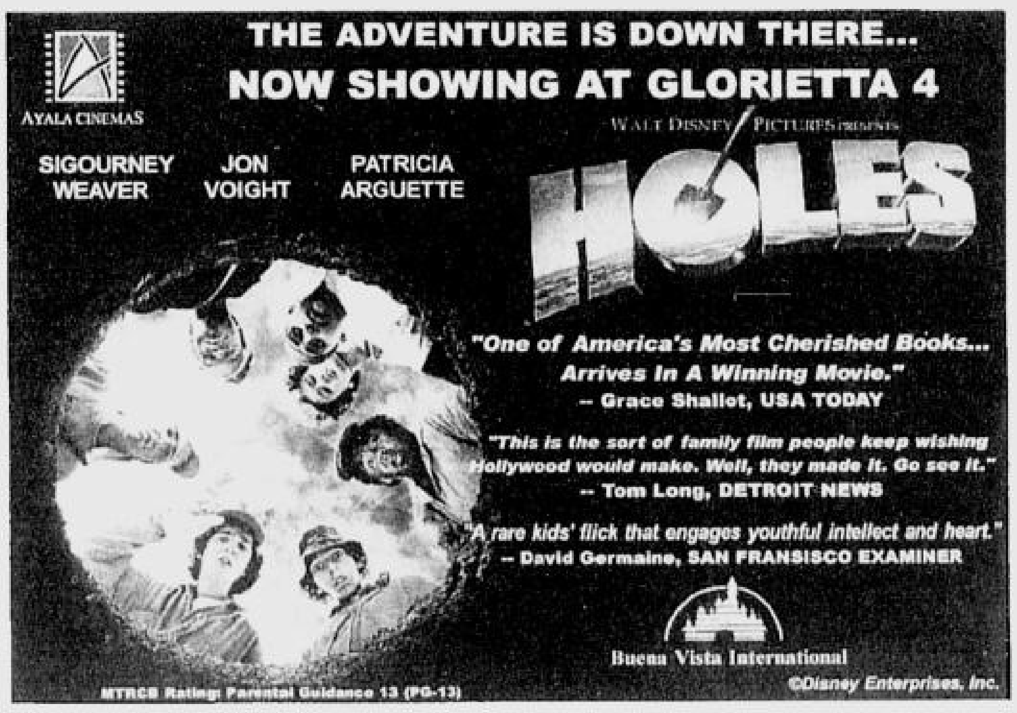
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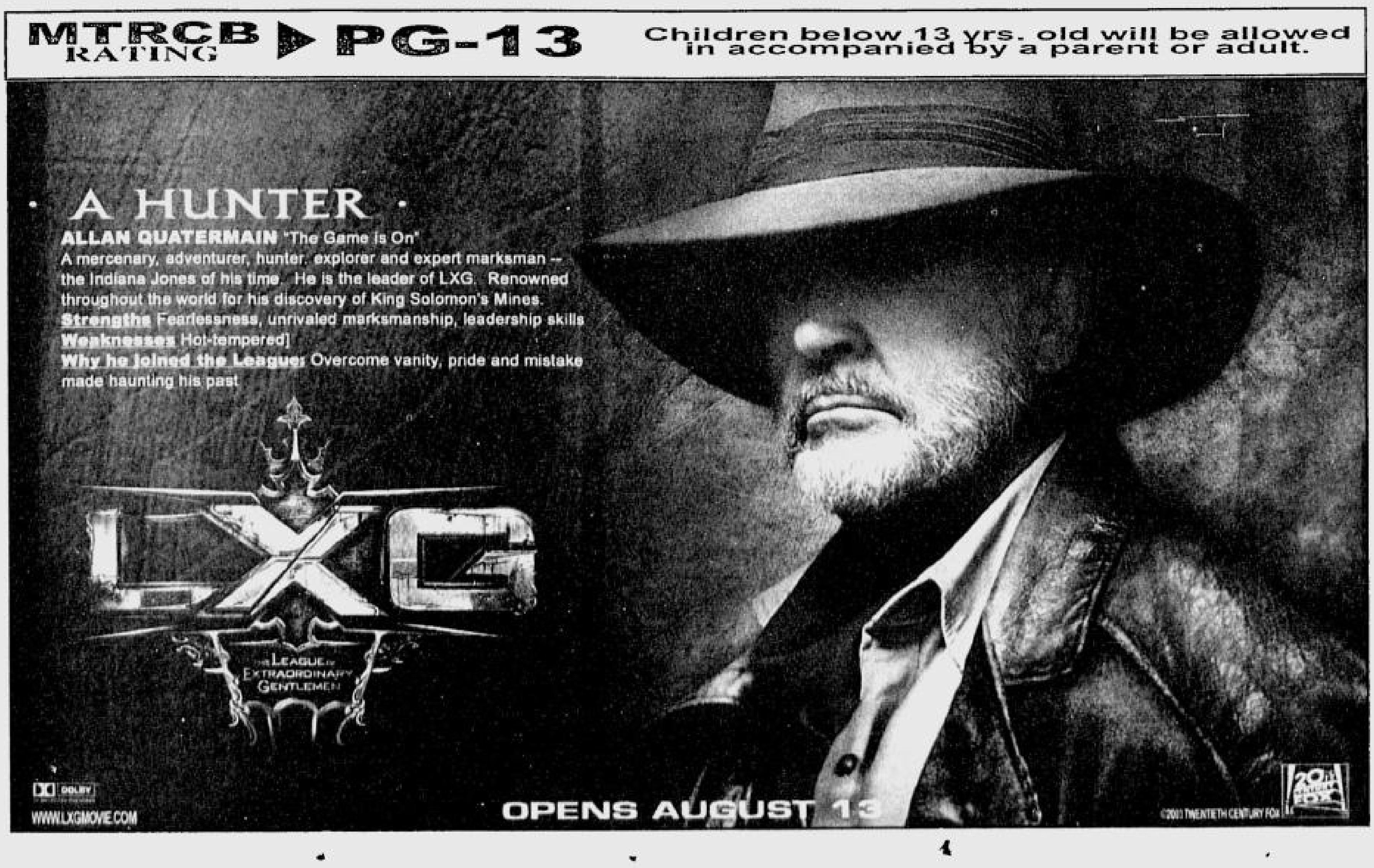
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# Loren gets ready for 2004, launches new youth show

LEGARDA thinks it's too early for the presidency.

By Marinel R. Cruz

Senate Majority Floor Leader and television host Loren Legarda launched a new, youth-oriented TV show called "Tara Tena," on the same day she announced she would run for reelection in 2004.

Legarda said she would seriously consider running for vice president if Lakas-CMD offered her the position.

"I'm ready for higher office," Legarda on Tuesday told a group of entertainment writers in a press conference in Quezon City.

Legarda is on her second term as senator and is eligible for reelection.

But she said she finds running for president in 2004 too early. "There is still a lot to learn and to consider," she said. "We will know in time."

She insisted she has not made up her mind, "although I consider the vice presidency a good option."

The press lunch launched Legarda's new youth-oriented show, "Tara Tena," which will premiere on Saturday, Aug. 9, on ABS-CBN, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., replacing "Star Studio."

"This program mirrors the aspirations of the youth," Legarda explained. "It attempts to discuss their everyday experiences."

"Tara Tena" is from the title of the grand-prize winner in the 'Jam Himig Handog sa Makabagong Kabataan" song contest. The song also won for its young composer Jonathan Manalo and interpreters Kayla and V3 the Katha Music awards for best R&B song and best R&B song vocal performance.

"At the end of each story, I will give my input to reinforce the message of the story," Legarda said.

For its initial offering, "Tara Tena" features Baron Geisler, Jacklyn Jose and Desiree del Valle in a story about absentee parenting and living in a dysfunctional family.

"This is a show by the youth, for the youth and about the youth," Legarda pointed out.

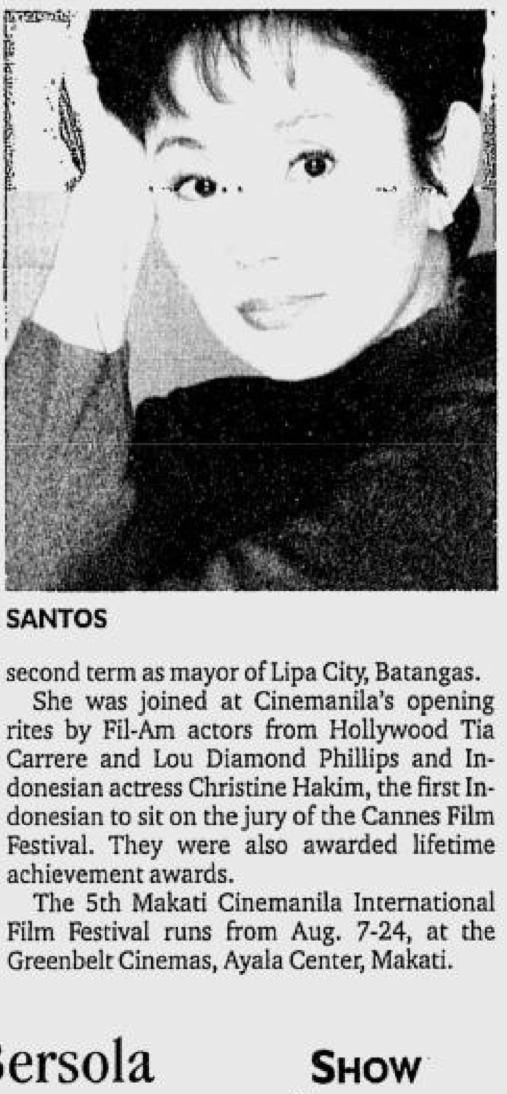
Legarda is also seen every Saturday in "Kabalikat" on the ANC Channel and heard between 4:30 and 6 p.m. on dzMM.

She will also appear in a 30-second infomercial for the youth, which Erik Matti will direct.

Last February, Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson, also a presidential aspirant, said he believed he might have found his lucky charm in Legarda, based on the prediction of a feng shui expert who predicted that he would win in 2004 only if his running mate was an articulate woman with shoulder-length hair, beautiful face and a mole on her body.

The description fit Legarda, according to Lacson, who boldly asked the woman senator if she had a mole in any part of her body.

# Makati Cinemanila honors Vilma Santos



SANTOS

VILMA Santos, winner of seven best actress awards from the Urian, five from the Famas where she is also a Hall of Famer, and various Star and Film Academy of the Philippines awards, was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 5th Makati Cinemanila International Film Festival, during the opening rites last Thursday at Onstage in Greenbelt 1, Makati.

Santos' film career spans several decades starting with "Trudis Liit" at age nine for Sampaguita Pictures. She metamorphosed into a popular star in the '70s, rivaled only by the Superstar Nora Aunor, and went on to become a highly respected multi-awarded actress.

Some of her memorable films are "Relasyon," "Broken Marriage," "Ikaw ay Akin," "Pahiram ng Isang Umaga" all directed by the Ishmael Bernal; "Sister Stella L.," by Mike de Leon; "Rubia Serbios," by the late Lino Brocka; "Ipagpatawad Mo," by Laurice Guillen; "Pagputi ng Uwak, Pag-itim ng Tagak" and "Burlesk Queen," by Celso Ad Castillo; "Bata, Bata, Paano Ka Ginawa" and "Dekada '70" by Chito Roño which will be reshown at Cinemanila.

She has also appeared in films by Eddie Garcia, Elwood Perez, Emmanuel Borlaza, Rory Quintos, and Marilou Diaz Abaya.

On television, Santos had one of the longest running musical variety shows, as well as a TV drama series. Married to Sen. Ralph Recto, she has two sons and is on her second term as mayor of Lipa City, Batangas.

She was joined at Cinemanila's opening rites by Fil-Am actors from Hollywood Tia Carrere and Lou Diamond Phillips and Indonesian actress Christine Hakim, the first Indonesian to sit on the jury of the Cannes Film Festival. They were also awarded lifetime achievement awards.

The 5th Makati Cinemanila International Film Festival runs from Aug. 7-24, at the Greenbelt Cinemas, Ayala Center, Makati.

# Altar-bound Tin-tin Bersola models in 'Fairy Tale' fair

**SHOW STOPPER**

TV HOST Christine "Tin-Tin" Bersola leads a bevy of ramp models and beauty queens in a bridal couture show that will highlight "A Walk 2 Remember: The Wedding Fairy Tale," a wedding expo to be held at SM Megamall on Aug. 16 and 17.

The fair, presented by Air Philippines and co-sponsored by Abel Iloco, Interisland Travel & Tours, David's Salon, Zummurudah Clothing, HBC and Cafe Lupe, will have more than 80 exhibitors.

Tin-Tin, who will marry her broadcast journalist-boyfriend Julius Babao in December, will model in a fashion show during the fair.

For more information, call Sta. Maria Enterprises at 456-0139, (0916)374-6466, (0917)890-4720, or visit its website at www.weddingawork.com.

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# Kristine sells again

KRISTINE HERMOSA is in tears. The camera zooms in on her pained face and a gold necklace, which she angrily yanks from her body. She has just broken up with her boyfriend.

The top female endorser of 2002 goes to her kitchen, takes a piece of bread and spreads something golden yellow on it. She takes a bite, and suddenly, all the hurt is gone. The face lights up with the smile that has brightened up the movie and TV screens and has sold a dozen and one products.

This time, the product is Magnolia Inc.'s Dari Crème Lite.

Kristine sees parallelisms between how she reacts to problems, as seen in the commercial, and in real life. Kristine has taken this, and other ugly rumors in stride.

Just like in the commercial, Kristine goes her merry way, enjoying her life. Damn the torpedoes. And Kristine can have her cake and eat it, too—the blessings of a svelte figure without sacrificing her cravings for her favorite snack.

SHOW STOPPER

HERMOSA endorses Dari Creme

# Lani at Casino Filipino

"ASIA'S Nightingale" Lani Misalucha performs in a solo concert at the Casino Filipino-Parañaque Ampitheater tonight, Aug. 8.

Show starts at 9 p.m.

Lani has emerged as one of the most respected and sought-after solo performers in the local music scene. She is best known for her record-breaking hits such as "Somebody Warm Like Me," "Bukas na Lang Kita Mamahalin," "One More Time," "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me" and "Love Me Again."

"Loving You," her latest album release from Viva Records, currently ranks among the top 10 selling albums in the country. She is also a regular co-host of the Sunday noontime show "SOP."

**SHOW TIME**

Tickets to Lani's Casino Filipino Parañaque show are sold at P300, P500 and P1,000.

The concert is presented by Casino Filipino Parañaque and Marylouise International Productions, and by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

Sponsors are Pro-Mac and Dove. Media sponsors are the Journal Group of Companies, Woman Today, Crossover 105.1 FM and Joey's Rhythms 92.3 FM.

For tickets and inquiries, call the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. at 852-7758 or Ticketworld at 891-5610.

## *Concert series for Streetscape launch*

THE launch of Streetscape, the newest dining and gimmick place in town, Shangri-la Plaza Mall has a special countdown Latin concert series on August 8, 9, 15 and 16.

The series features JFK, a Latin jazz group; Happy People, composed of four young musicians; and Ethereal, who will play relaxed and cool jazz.

And watch out for sultry Brazilian songstress Ive Mendes, who will be flown in from the UK for an exclusive show for the Streetcape grand launch.

Also featured are the Piñacolada band and a street party with DJs, clowns, jugglers, face painters, henna tattooing and caricature artists, from 6 p.m. on Aug. 29.

There will also be a special performance by concert queen Pops Fernandez, the mall's celebrity endorser.

Entrance to the party is strictly by invitation. Shoppers can join in the fun by shopping with their MasterCard from Aug. 1-29 at any of the malls' stores. A minimum same-day, single-receipt purchase of P2,000 or same-day, multiple receipts of P3,000 entitle them to a free invitation.

For more information, call Shangri-La Plaza at 633-7851 or 636-1225.

# I want public apology...

From page C1

in Filipino. "I said Lorna should have the first choice. Boyet (Christopher) was being offered a role in 'Filipinas' (Viva's filmfest entry). Lorna was also being offered a role there. Mother's call came 30 minutes earlier than Vic Del Rosario's offer. But I thought (my talents) should be in 'Mano Po 2' because it has an all-star cast. I also told Mother she should give Lorna the first choice."

### Most powerful

Lolit said she also made it clear to the producer that she would pull out both of her talents from the movie if this stipulation were not met.

"Right away I told Boyet I would do this and he agreed," Lolit claimed. "I did not use him as a leverage to get Lorna the role she wanted to play. Boyet said he would stand by my decision. I think they (Christopher and Lorna) would follow what I want them to do because I had chartered their career paths well."

Arnold told INQUIRER Entertainment that he could not "get the point why a producer would be intimidated by the people around her."

He said he understood Mother Lily's predicament that the movie might collapse if the big stars suddenly pulled out from the project.

"She is the producer, she is supposed to be the leader," Arnold said. "She should be the most powerful (person in the project). I'm also a businessman. I'm also a producer. But I will not allow myself to be intimidated into making decisions."

### Wrong move

He said he was also banking on Mother Lily's word of honor.

"She gave me her word of honor that Dina would play the role of Belinda, the third wife," Arnold insisted. "She offered it to us.

"I'm waiting for her to call me to explain her side. She was the one who talked to me and made me the offer. But the one who told me that Dina was no longer in the cast was her supervising producer, and I think that's a wrong move.

"If you want to terminate the contract, you should talk to me. But she hasn't called up to now. Everybody is so unprofessional in this business."

When INQUIRER Entertainment called the producer on her cell phone, Mother Lily said she had stopped giving interviews about "Mano Po 2." "Why don't you just call the managers?" she suggested to this writer.

### Her loyalty

Supervising producer Manny Valera last Monday night said giving the third wife's role to Lorna had been Mother Lily's decision.

"No one can influence her," he said. "Her loyalty is to the project, not to any one talent. She did what she felt would be good for the movie."

He said that up to last Saturday when Mother Lily had called Arnold for an emergency meeting at the Manila Peninsula Hotel in Makati, the producer was convincing Arnold to look at the second wife's role for his talent.

"But Arnold turned down the part outright," Manny said.

He said he himself had later tried to convince Arnold to accept the part for Dina, but the manager had insisted that the role was not right for the actress.

### 'Very emotional'

Lolit said that if she were Arnold, she would have convinced Dina to take the second-wife's role, then the actress would still be in the cast.

When Mother Lily finally decided to give Lorna the third wife's role, she had asked Manny to tell Arnold about the decision.

Manny said Mother Lily had told him last Monday morning that he should make the call since he was the movie's supervising producer.

"That's really my job as supervising producer," Manny told INQUIRER Entertainment. "I called him to tell him and he became very emotional about it. But as a talent manager, I understood what he felt. I still tried to convince him to accept the second wife's role for Dina, but he refused it again, saying the part did not fit the actress."

### Good friend

Manny said that two hours after he called Arnold, the talent manager called him back and gave him two options: Mother Lily should pay Dina in full for the movie, and she should say publicly that the role had been taken away from Dina because of power play.

"So I told Mother, who said she would check what kind of contract they had," Manny said.

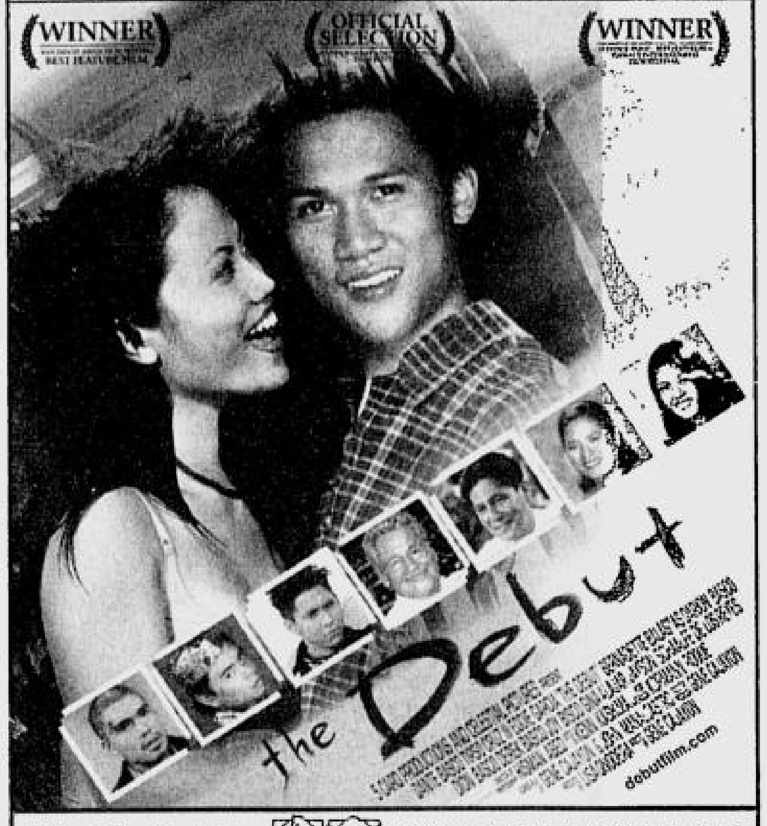
Arnold said he had no intentions of filing a case against the producer.

"She's a good friend," he said. "I know she would not do that to me. I still believe that she's on our side. I just want to put a closure to this. I will also stop giving interviews about this."

For her part, Dina was saddened by Mother Lily's decision, but she still wished the producer well and wished the cast good luck, according to Arnold.

"She just wants to move on," he said of Dina.

**PEARLS AND BEAUTIES** Actress Gloria Diaz, together with former first lady Imelda Marcos, cuts the symbolic pearl garlands at the opening of Pearls and Precious Stones Village, at Festival Supermall in Alabang. The country's first Miss Universe was assisted by Festival Supermall's Hermi Sabile and Rose Nuqui, Filinvest Development president Josephine Gotianun-Yap, and Muslim Traders Association officers. Festival Supermall has over 550 specialty stores and restaurants. For inquiries, call 850-3514, or visit www.festivalsupermall.com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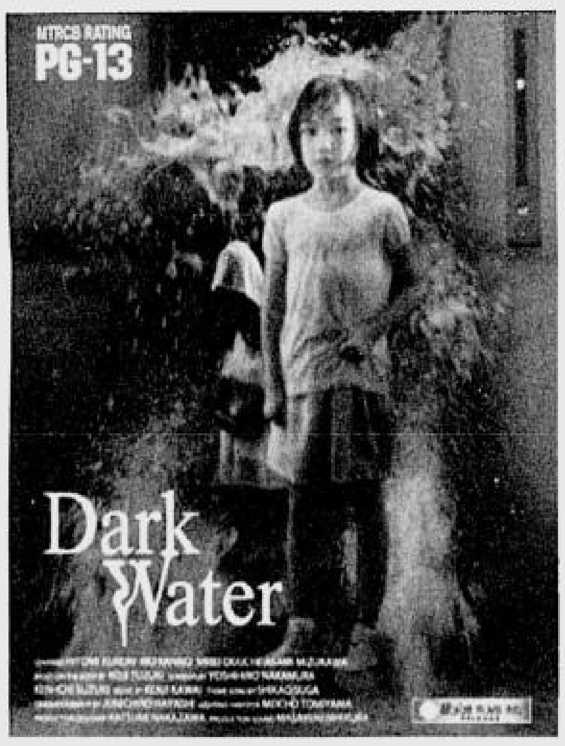

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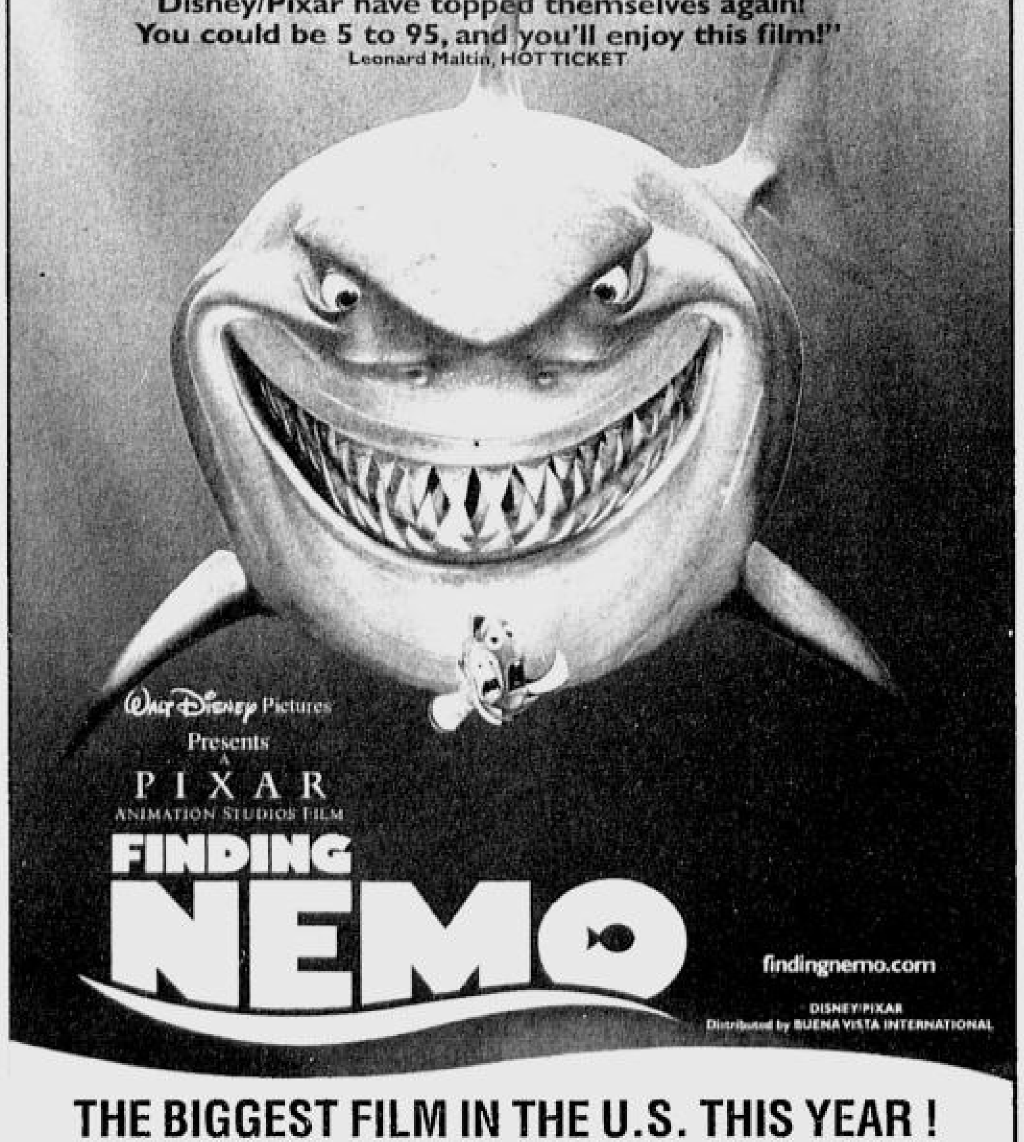

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|---|---|---|
| MY LITTLE EYE<br>R18<br>1:30,3:30,5:30,<br>7:30,9:30 | TOMB RAIDER 2<br>PG13<br>11:50,2:20,4:50,<br>7:20,9:50 | THE IN-LAWS<br>PG13<br>1:30,3:40,5:50,<br>8:00,10:10 |

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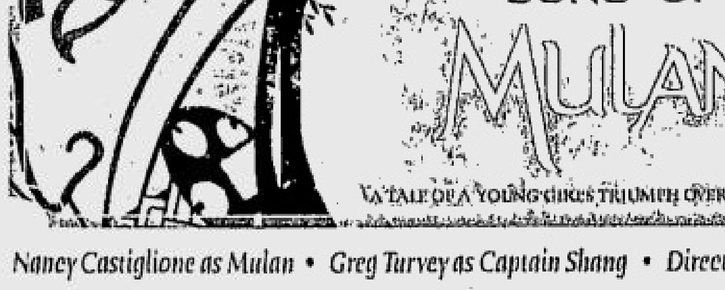
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Aug. 10 - 11am, 3pm, 6pm

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REEL LIFE, with late long-time partner Tessie Quintana and another actor. At right, the other women in his life (from left): Maritess, Tina

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SCENES from a life well-lived. Magazine covers and a poster from Goyena's heyday

# Armando Goyena's real-life dramas

From page A8

today.

"There was no jealousy among us contract stars," he says. "We were all good friends."

He recalls that as a contract star of LVN, he was part of a big family. He was paid a salary, and a bonus if his movie made money, like "Tia Loleng."

"We were like a big family," he says. "We attended parties together. We were always together. My love team was Tessie Quintana, a very nice lady, a good person. Of the 48 movies I made then, 15 of them were with Tessie."

## Unhappy ending

But his off-screen relationship with the actress is even more poignant than any movie roles the couple had played.

"Tessie died of cancer at the age of 38," he says. "At the time she was dying in a hospital, all the other LVN stars were gathered around her bed except for me. I was no longer in the movies then. I was already in business."

Goyena was attending a Rotary Club meeting when Tessie had her real-life death scene. He recalls that his wife arrived in his meeting and motioned him to come out.

"My wife told me, 'Tessie Quintana is dying and she's looking for you,'" Goyena says.

He rushed to be at her side, and just like in the movies, he arrived too late.

"TIYA LOLENG"

"She died five minutes before I arrived," Goyena says sadly.

He talks of the recent deaths of three veteran actors—Vic Vargas, Oscar Moreno and Cesar Ramirez—and says he went to the wake of Moreno.

"I thought to myself, 'Oh, God, there might be a fourth death,'" he says. "Then I thanked God I'm still alive."

## Most memorable

As an actor, he considers the role of Tony Javier in the Nick Joaquin play "Portrait of the Filipino as an Artist" as his most memorable portrayal. For 70 runs, he explored the human condition through the Javier character as if he himself were the man trapped in the sordid reality of poverty, which only gentility (as personified by the spinster sisters Paula and Candida) could overcome. The play was staged by Lamberto V. Avellana's Barangay Theater Guild, and was directed by Wilfredo Ma. Guerrero.

"They tell me that not one portrayal was the same," says Goyena. "Even if Wilfredo was from the Ateneo and I was from La Salle, we became quite close. He was the one who tapped me to play Tony Javier. Every night, after a performance, he would tell me that I did something different again. He said, 'You're no longer Armando Goyena; you're Tony Javier.'"

The rogue role of Tony Javier jump-started his movie career, which holed him in swashbuckling roles if not in teenybopper love stories.

"I was 23 when I started, but they said I looked too young to play mature roles," he says. "They made me play roles of 16-year-olds. That was my difficulty at that time. I could not play mature roles, and I liked to play mature roles. Until I played Tony Javier on stage. Then they cast me in dramas."

His movie career peaked when he cross-dressed in "Tia Loleng," but his success came with some embarrassment.

"In the early days, it was unheard of for an actor to play a woman and wear women's clothes," he explains. "But I enjoyed doing that movie. It was a good role for me. Sometime after that movie, I was known as Tia Loleng. People would call me Tia Loleng in the streets."

Although he refused to name his favorite actors, he says he thought "Leopoldo Salcedo was good, and in a different style, so was Rogelio dela Rosa. I was pitted against them in some movies."

These days, he can only pit himself against himself.

"What else do I want to do? I can think of several roles. But I am limited by my age."

In one telenovela, the production staff had to whiten his hair for his role. "They told me I did not look old enough," he says, his eyes twinkling with glee.

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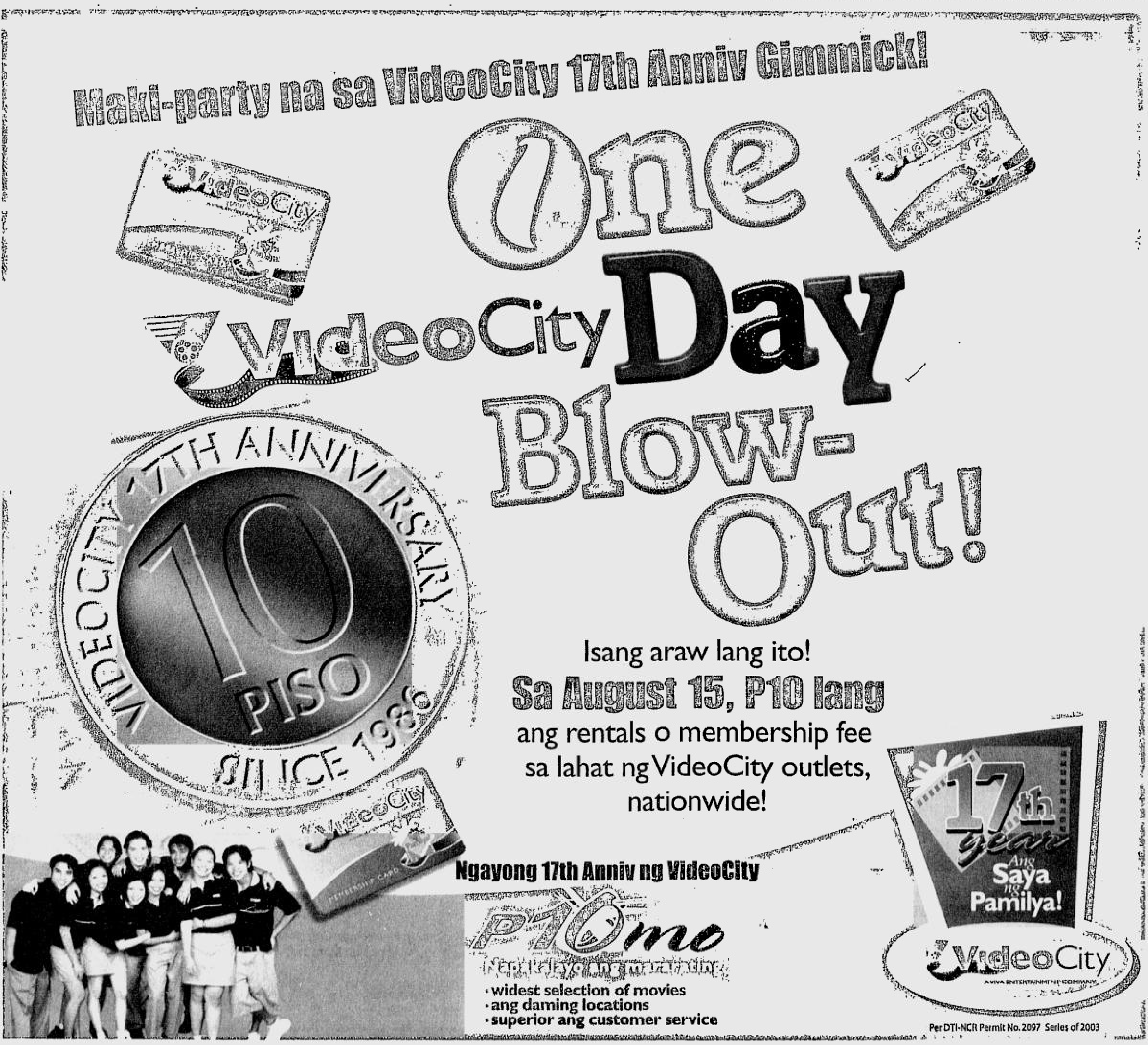
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# Armando Goyena's real-life dramas

By Nini Valera

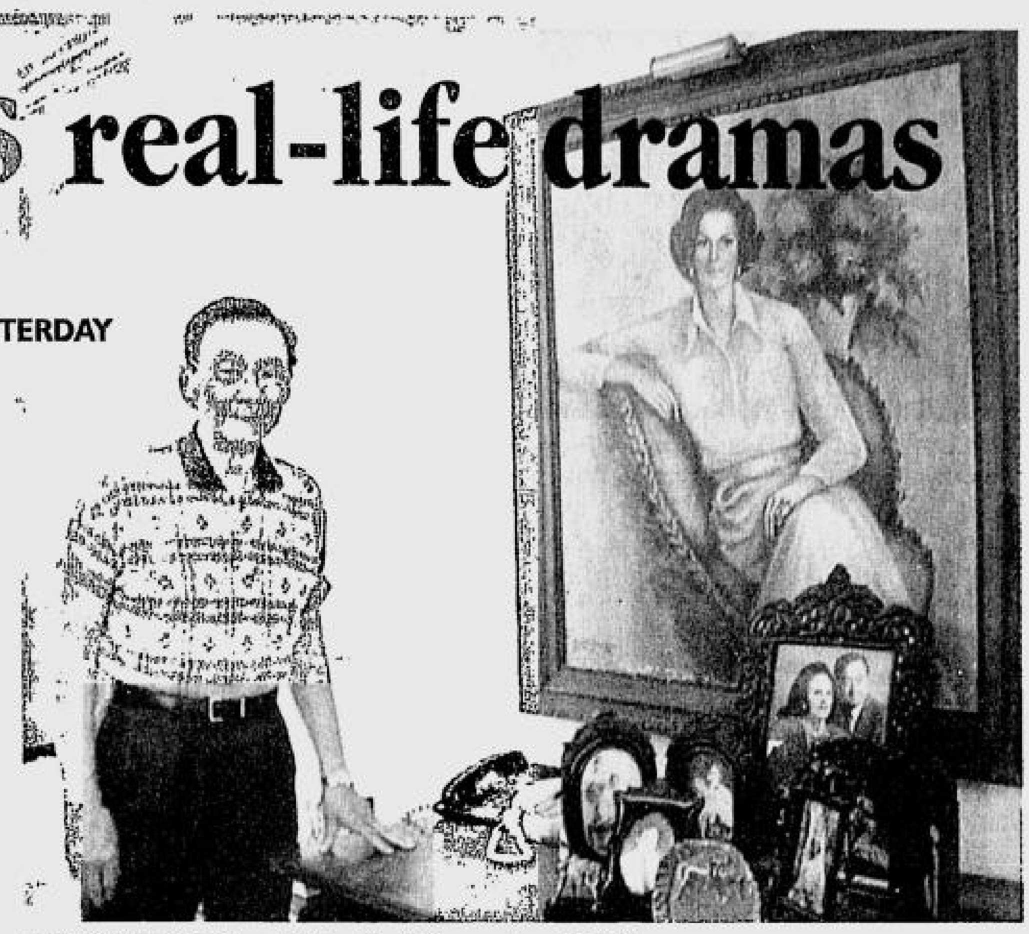
MOVIE actor Armando Goyena had to play a woman in the '50s before he could become a star.

The part was the title role in the 1953 comedy "Tiya Loleng" with Tessie Quintana, which was filmed at least three decades before Dustin Hoffman made "Tootsie" and Robin Williams played "Mrs. Doubtfire."

"They imitated us," Goyena chuckles. "The movie became a big hit, and that's how I made some money to marry."

Goyena, now 80, was married to Francisca Roses, also called

THE IDOL of the '50s



GOYENA and his late wife Paquita. "She was beautiful," he says. RUDY ESPERAS

Paquita, the first Camay soap model, with whom he had seven daughters and a son. Two of these daughters first became movie stars themselves—Maritess Revilla, who was also a soap model, and Tina Revilla, who later became a television host.

He has 28 grandchildren, four of whom have also become celebrities—Bianca Araneta, her brother Carlo, Bernard "BJ" Palanca and his brother Mico.

A portrait of Paquita is prominently displayed in Goyena's suite in a condominium unit at the Ortigas Center. He gazes at his wife's face and sighs.

"She was beautiful," he says, almost in a whisper.

Paquita died from an obscure disease, whose name Goyena could not recall. He also could not recall exactly when she died, "oh, about four or three years ago," he says. How old was she when she died? "Let me see, she was 11 years younger than I am."

## Late awards

But he remembers how she suffered the pain of her ailment.

"She suffered. Four years of suffering. She was on a bed in that corner of this room." He points at a part of the suite where an antique cabinet holding his acting awards are now displayed.

"It's funny," he says. "All these awards came late in my life. I missed these when I was younger."

He has a total of five awards, mostly tributes from award-giving bodies that gave him recognition for his enduring popularity in an industry that thrives on youth power.

When asked for the names of his 28 grandchildren, he says, "Forget it." He tries to name his eight children, but starts to fumble with the sixth child, saying he has not seen her in 10 years because she lives in the States. He also refers to another daughter only as Mrs. Shultz.

"Why are you asking me these questions?" he blurts out.

Despite the memory lapses and the bags beneath his eyes, Goyena has the build of a 40-year-old man.

"I work out in the gym for two hours, twice a week," he says. "I have been doing this for six years, after I had two open-heart surgeries. I can lift free weights, but not sacks of rice. I have muscles in my arms and I am fit."

## One big family

He thinks he's lucky he can still do many things, like run a restaurant in Makati and appear in the movies.

His latest role is in the December film fest movie "Captain Barbell," and he is anxious to learn his lines. This has become harder now, he admits, unlike when he played the title role of "Kapitan Kidlat" in 1953, the local version of Captain Marvel.

"It was very different then," he says.

The difference in the movie industry then was the studio system as opposed to the star system of

ARMANDO/ C7

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*Editor* **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

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# Singapore event can boost RP furniture's global chances

THE WOODMACASIA 2003/FurniTekAsia2003 to be held Sept. 9-12 at the Singapore Expo will help local furniture manufacturers tap into the global middle- and high-end furniture consumer markets.

WoodmacAsia focuses on woodworking and furniture manufacturing machinery, while FurniTekAsia is a showcase of raw materials, components, hardware and accessories for furniture production. Both events offer quality and innovative products from international manufacturers.

The Philippines, a major player in the world's furniture market, is expected to benefit from the event. Although Filipino manufacturers can boast of good design and excellent craftsmanship, they have to invest in new equipment and modernize their facilities to remain competitive in the global export market.

Vicki Lim, project director for machinery events at Singapore Exhibition Services, said delegates were likely to find numerous business opportunities during the event.

This year's exhibition theme is "Adapting to Changing Trends, Excelling in Challenging Times." Invited speakers will discuss key issues related to the woodworking industry today.

At the whole-day "Country Focus: Indonesia" session, Indonesian industry experts will give advice on how to tap into the country's vibrant and fast-growing forestry industry. Topics include the current and emerging trends in the Indonesian industry, pricing trends for timber and wood and keeping the country's plywood industry sustainable.

The pressing need for alternative wood supplies in view of the scarcity of natural hardwood will be discussed in "Eco-manufacturing, Waste Reduction and Recycling of Wood Waste." Discussions will revolve around alternative wood supplies, the challenges of utilizing non-conventional fiber resources in Malaysia and the pelleting of wood waste, among others.

In the "Outsourcing in Furniture Manufacturing" session, delegates will learn how to invest in their core competence, outsource less efficient components and revisit the benefits of outsourcing.

Rounding off the two-day WoodmacAsia2003 International Conference are presentations on Marketing Wood Products and Designs, featuring a discussion on the trends and issues of furniture manufacturing and design, as well as a case study on wood products in Asia.

As this year's country partner, Germany will have a large group of exhibitors. Also expected are exhibitors from over 40 countries and regions including Austria, China, Taiwan, Finland, Japan and the United States.

Grenzebach will showcase veneer dryers that use a special technology to prevent resin deposit in the drying chamber.

Major exhibitor Dieffenbacher will display complete panel production lines, including dryer, spreading and gluing systems, press systems storing and handling systems. The machines are used to manufacture particleboard, MDF, OSB and plywood and other wood-based panels.

Henkel Dorus will present its revolutionary non-hazardous polyurethane hotmelts adhesive, the MicroEmission (ME) purmelt.

Furniture makers will get to see Mepla-Alfit's "soft-close" drawer system, the DWD-Dynamic-XP.

Treffert is demonstrating the direct printing of any desired wood grain/plank structure on lower grade face veneer. It will also introduce High-Performance Coating for the panel industry as well as the UV Curable Powder Coating.

Raute's Smart-Peel Concept maximizes raw materials regardless of the species of wood species or its block diameter.

Soss Asia will feature its best-selling invisible hinge and the Door Spring Closer.

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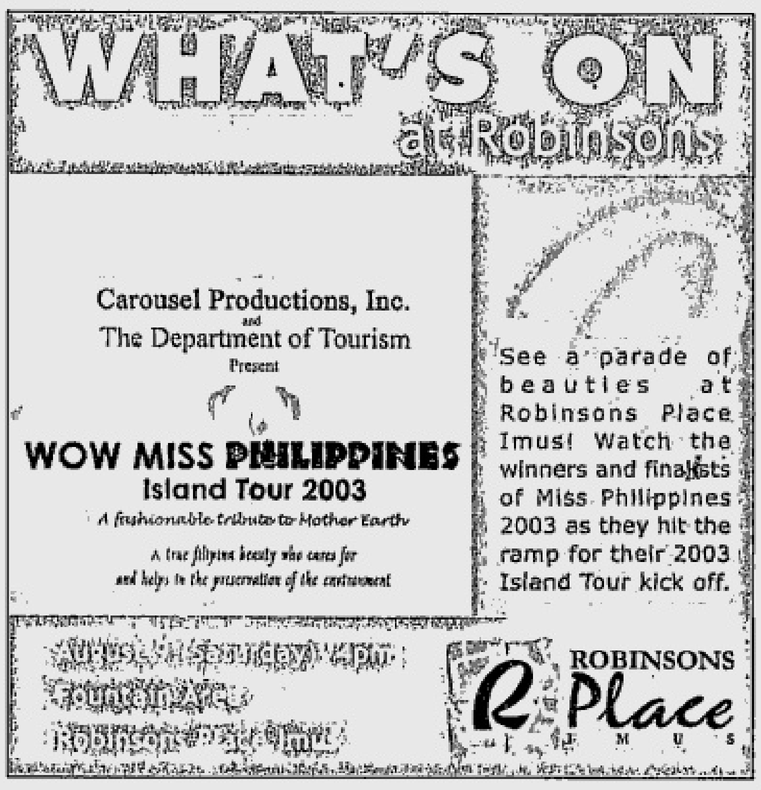
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**THE ROYAL** of wines: Ralph Joseph loading it at the bar

**HOT** Fila dude: Chris Peterson

**FILA'S** hot, hot babes: Anna Palabyab, Bianca Araneta, Lexi and Nicole Schulze and Sandra Seifert

# From Bastille and back, it's retro all the way

**WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH**

*Maurice Arcache*

Photos by **Alex Van Hagen** on Kodak Max

**LADY** of the house Christine San Diego of Absinth with Leo Kapispisan

**VINCE** and Ana Bitong

**SUPER** pals forever: Irene Yulo and Cris Albert

**VENEZUELAN** Ambassador Milena Santana-Ramirez with beauty queen Gemma Cruz

**FRENCH BEAUTIES.** French embassy's cultural assistant Anne-Gaelle Claude and French Trade commission Emilie Larese

**CRIS** Albert blowing the candles of her funky cake.

LAST Friday, dahlings, people flocked to the popular Absinth Bar and Resto, dressed in their best retro get-up. Yep, another retro affair again to celebrate another great year of Fila's gorgeous power woman: **Cris Albert**, *palanggas*.

Albert recreated the sensational '80s with the help of her eye-catching sister, Fila's top events planner—**Ana Bitong**. Absinth was transformed into the only-too-familiar discotheque. Original Faces music was played by retro's best DJs **Boyet Sison** and **Boyet Almazan** .

The crowd was hot, gorgeous and vibrant. Leading the cast of beauties were fashionistas in Fila sportswear and classic '80s clothes, styled by young and talented Fila designer **Mich Dulce**.

Cris Albert's ultra-fashionable mom, **Wanda Louwallien,** was a knock-out in mini skirt and net stockings. Also smashing was ex-model and exotic beauty **Chiqui Samson**. In the crowd were PR lady **Susan Joven**, savvy polo player **Vince Bitong** and sportsman **Anton Gonzales**.

In true '80s style, Hotlegs dancer **Georcell Dapat** performed Madonna songs, reminding everyone just how sexy the '80s was. Her performance even shocked **JR Isaac**.

Before you could bat an eyelash, popular Fila endorser and MTV VJ, a very married **Donita Rose**, arrived to give a short straight-from-the-heart speech to honor Cris.

Cris' hubby, Fila president **Butch Albert**, wheeled out a gorgeous cake topped with a mirror ball, done by cake expert **Marta Matute**. Glittering gold confetti soon rained on the crowd, as Cris blew another great year out!

But that was just the start. Aaah, those wicked and lethal but must-drink Absinth shots were laid out in the bar for the birthday toast. Afterward, it was "Saturday Night Fever" disco time again!

It didn't take long for those prim and proper babes of *buenas familias* to get real naughty and wild. Blame it on the booze! Everyone hit the dance floor and rocked to the sounds of DJ **Basty Wacker**.

Guests got a CD of Cris' fave '80s music. She truly made sure her birthday night would play on and on and on, *palanggas*.

## French toast

It has been 214 years since the French People Power revolution known as the Fall of the Bastille. Today, the French National Day is commemorated with wine and champagne, pomp and circumstance by all French nationals wherever they are in the world, to uphold their commitment to the famous French tenets of "liberty, equality and fraternity."

In the Philippines, "Asia's first democracy and the author of the modern version of the Fall of Bastille," the French National Day was celebrated with cocktails at the grand ballroom of the elegant Mandarin Oriental Manila.

**ROYAL** of the night life Louie Y. with Cecile Chang Ysmael

The glitzy affair was led by the *tres* dynamic French Ambassador Madame **Renee Veyret**, and drew more then 1,000 guests. French military attaché, Navy Capt. **Michel Merin**, helped Madame Ambassador welcome the fancy crowd at the ballroom's entrance. The diplomatic corps arrived in tidal-wave force. Present were American Ambassador **Francis Ricciardone**; Greek Ambassador **Alexios G. Christopoulos**; Israeli Ambassador Madame **Irit Ben-Abba**; Mexican Ambassador **Enrique Hubbard**; Ambassador **Ignacio Sagaz** (who was with his tall wife, **Aurora Lapus**) and European Commission delegation head **Jan de Kok**.

Onstage, Ambassador Veyret was joined by Foreign Undersecretary **Franklin Ebdalin** and Venezuelan Ambassador **Milena Santana-Ramirez**.

Representatives of cosmopolitan Manille's chic register were there, such as Sen. **Edgardo Anagara** and **Jarius Bondoc**, who was with wife **Marissa**.

As we chatted around, one hot magnate told *moi*, "My friends there (pointing to where they were) laughed at me when I spoke to the waiter in French, but they didn't know I'd told him to give my friends the check."

Fashion designer Lulu Tan Gan, recently decorated by the French government, and Bro. Andrew Gonzales of De La Salle University partied. So did Prof. **Erwin Bautista** of the European Languages Department of UP Diliman, Fr. **Gabriel Casal** of the National Museum and ethnic music exponent **Grace Nono.**

I asked a very popular heavyweight belonging to the Bocnotian Consolidated Industry Inc., "Did you have any difficulty with your French in Paris?" "No, Maurice," he said, "but I know the French people did." Hey, he's not only brilliant, he's witty, too.

The French nationals represented loads.of various French investments in the country. There was tall, *tres charmant* **Louis Vergeon**, who is the country manager of Air France, *naturellement;* and **Louis Paul Neussaf** of Supplies Oilfield.

A high-profile businessman asked a Frenchman, "How do you ask for water in Paris?" The Frenchman replied, "Who drinks water in Paris?" With that answer, I was out of there, *palanggas*.

**SOUTHERN** lady Mme. Aurora Sagaz, Turkish Ambassador Tanju Sumer, Her Excellency French Ambassador Renee Veyret, Mme. Artemis Sumer and Spanish Ambassador Ignacio Sagaz

*MI amiga*, vivacious Bambi Harper, Nellie Bengzon, Mita Rufino and doyen of PR ladies Charisse Chuidian

**THE FRENCH** are back: Totalfinaelf's vice president for retail Giles Cartier, Air France general manager Louis Vergeon and Mme. Delphine Dollinger with husband, Aventis president Allan Dollinger

## Spotting them

Back in the '80s, the fabulous **Louie Y.** on top of the Hyatt Hotel was the hottest place to have that 15 minutes of fame.

King of the nightlife Louie Ysmael recently relived those glory years in the same spot. The '80s pack came in full retro force to the "strictly by invitation only" affair. Louie's wife **Cecille** entertained the guests.

The denizens of that era had a reunion. Walking down memory lane were **Bong Daza**; **Iñigo** and **Maricris Zobel**; Gov. **Joe Zubiri**; **Charlie Carmona**, who danced with former lady love **Liana Romulo Concoy**, and slim **Doodie Tuazon**, both coming straight from the wedding anniversary of President **Macapagal-Arroyo** and hubby **Mike Arroyo** in Malacañang; and Rep. **Charlie Cojuangco**, who was having a blast from the past with his adorable wife **Rio Diaz**.

Also partying were Triple V's **Vic Vic Villavicencio**; super couple **Susan** and **Boy Limjoco**; Philippine Tatler editor **Anton San Diego**, who was shimmying on the dance floor, giving Ricky Martin a run for his money; vivacious **Annie Carmona**, **Raffy Rufino** and even the rarely partying **Gina Tabuena Godinez**.

Eye-catching beautiful faces spotted were **Rosanna Escudero**; **Rebecca Dosch**; **Bianca Araneta** (looking chic with champagne flute in hand); **Joy Hendrickson**, who was the gorgeous date of **Richie Santos**; **Tweetie de Leon Gonzalez**; **Faith Lavarro**; **Bianca Zobel**; **Jenny Manuel**; **Nikki Prieto Teodoro** and **Dawn Lagdameo**. All these gorgeous babes sparkled like precious stones. But the flawless, blue-white dazzling diamond of the night was the stunningly beautiful New York-based print model **Christina Garcia**. She blew off the socks of men, but yet found time to have a long chat with her former boyfriend, handsome **Juan Elizalde**.

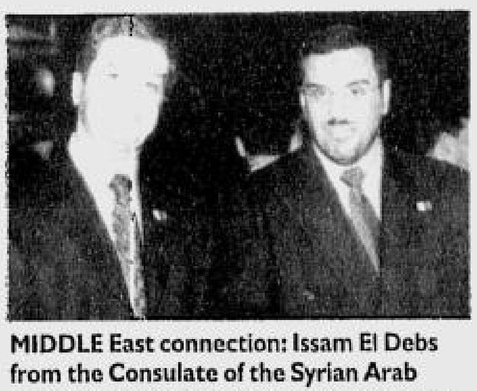
The eyesore was this babe, who is known for her Saturday night fever, looking like a Christmas tree with all the lights on. *Moi* told her, "This is a retro theme party, not a Christmas bash." She answered, "Well, Maurice, I wanted to be different." Well, *palanggas*, "different" she definitely was—ooops! And this mega businessman who was enjoying himself *sooo* much, he was spreading his money around as if it were—well, okay, couscous, dahlings, buying everyone rounds and rounds of drinks.

The only letdown to all of this was the bloody heat! It was so hot! Many complained, "Why couldn't Hyatt do something about the airconditioning up there?"

**CZECH** Ambassador Stanislav Slavicky, Evangeline Pascual and Frank Evaristo

**THREE** flowers and the Man of Lebanon: Grace Nono, Euro Campus' Countess Ariane Cacace, Lebanese Consulate's Joseph Assad and Mapfre's insurance broker Maricar Mascunana

**MARIVIC** Rufino, BSP governor Rafael Buenaventura and Austrian Ambassador Dr. Christian Krepela


**MIDDLE** East connection: Issam El Debs from the Consulate of the Syrian Arab Republic, and Abdulaziz Al-Shehab of the Consulate of Qatar

# Independent scientists bare stand on GM food

**SEEING GREEN**

*Doris Gaskell Nuyda*

SOME 25 scientists from all over the world, including those from the Philippines, and representing different disciplines have issued a joint statement regarding Genetically Modified (GM) foods. The group, calling itself the Independent Science Panel (ISP), met in London last May. It obviously aims to emphasize the group's different approach to and view of bio-engineered food.

The scientists' report, like that of pro-GMO scientists and supporters (which we mentioned last week), is long. But unlike that of the pro group, ISP's report has no "ifs" and "buts." The ISP statement explains the group's stand. We quote:

On the promotion of science for the public good, independent of commercial interests and government control: "We believe that science should be accountable to civil society, that it should be accessible to all, regardless of gender, age, race, religion or caste; and that all sectors of society should participate in making decisions on all issues related to science, from scientific research to policies regarding science and technologies."

### Scientific honesty

On maintaining the highest standards of integrity and impartiality in science: "We subscribe to the principles of honesty, openness and pluralism in the practice of science. There should be open peer review for published work, and respect and protection for those whose research challenges the conventional paradigm or majority opinion. Scientific disagreements must be openly debated."

On developing sciences that can help make the world sustainable, equitable, peaceful and life-enhancing for all inhabitants: "We respect the sanctity of human life, seek to minimize harm to any living creature and protect the environment. We hold that science should contribute to the physical, social and spiritual well being of all.

"We are committed to an ecological perspective that takes proper account of the complexity, diversity and interdependence of all nature.

"We subscribe to the precautionary principle: when there is reasonable suspicion of serious or irreversible damage, lack of scientific consensus must not be used to postpone preventive action. We reject scientific endeavors that serve aggressive ends, promote commercial imperialism or damage social justice across the world."

That last statement covers a lot of sub-issues in the controversy, involving not only risks to human and animal health and food safety, but economic and social equality as well.

### Scientists' concern

The ISP is not relying on mere words and what can be perceived as personal bias in making its stand. Within the ISP is the Genetic Modification Group composed of scientists in the fields of genetics, biosciences, toxicology, medicine and other disciplines that have counterparts in the pro group. The GM group in the ISP is concerned about the harmful effects of genetic modification and related technologies on plants and animals, and with the "rapid commercialization in agriculture and nature without due process of public consultation and consent."

ISP reports that extensive reviews of evidence related to genetic modification indicate "that GM crops are neither needed nor wanted and that they have failed to deliver their promises. On the contrary, GM crops are presenting escalating problems for farmers and posing unacceptable risks to health and the environment."

> When serious or irreversible damage is suspected, lack of scientific consensus should not delay preventive action

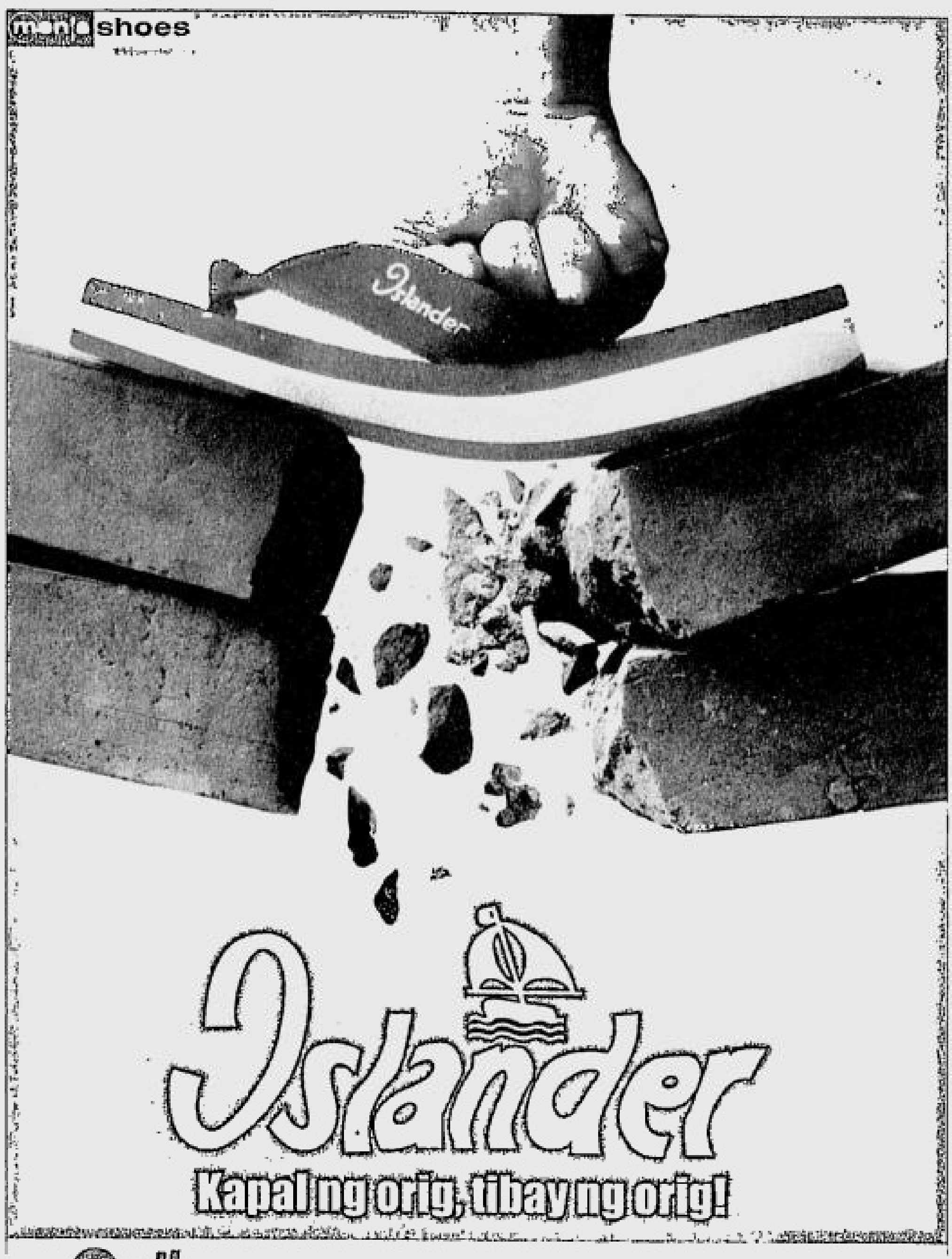
From where we stand, it seems that the best thing that could happen to Planet Earth is for GM scientists to continue their testings and studies until there is no shadow of a doubt that their theories and experiments really, really work. After all, they are trying to find solutions to the world's food problems that may overwhelm us all.

But I also share the fears of the rest of humankind that the alternatives they suggest might result in more problems than offer solutions. This means any GM product requires continued review and monitoring before it is put in the market. So, while some scientists may say "Let's do this now and share it with the world," others may be more cautious and say, "Wait and see and make sure first, before sharing it with the world."

### Zoo Enrichment seminar

Those asking about My Zoo volunteers and Zoo Enrichment seminars, please be informed that your queries have been sent directly to Kathy Chua of My Zoo. She is arranging the schedules, so she is in a better position to give you the information you need. We will pass on the information to you as soon as possible.

*E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com*



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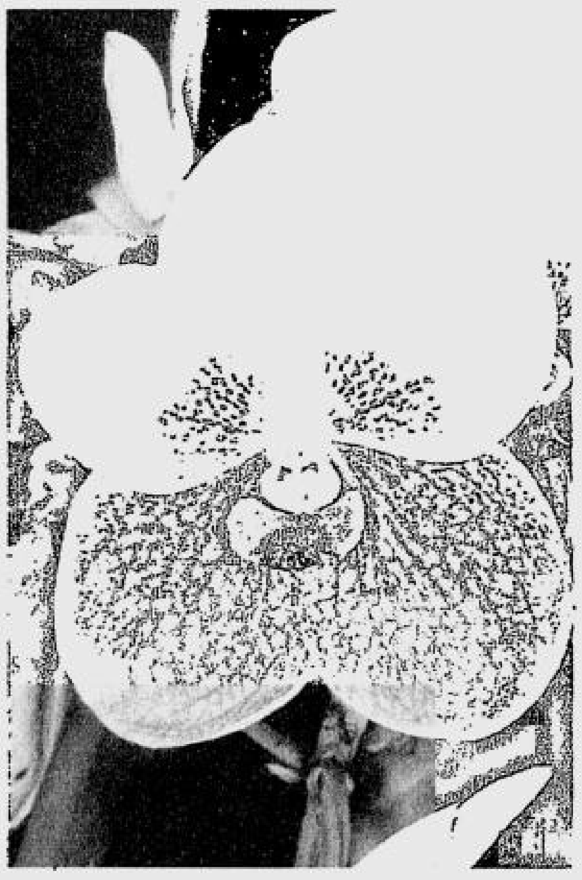
# *Waling-waling is star of mid-year orchid show*



THE PHILIPPINE Orchid Society (POS) holds its 57th mid-year orchid and garden show Aug. 29-Sept. 8, Quezon City Hall sunken garden, Orchidarium Park, Elliptical Road corner East Avenue, Quezon City.

Theme of this year's show is "Orkidya, Halamanang Pangkabuhayan."

The show will have landscape exhibits featuring orchids and ornamentals, orchid plant competition and lectures-demonstrations on orchid culture/management for leisure and profit. A commercial section will sell orchids, ornamentals and other garden needs.

Photo shows a Waling-waling (*Euanthe sanderiana*) owned by Millet Gagui Dizon of Davao that won in a previous orchid show. Native to Mindanao, Waling-waling is one of the most sought-after vandaceous species. Now in season, the Waling-waling will be one of the highlights of the show.

Call Jenny at 9294425 or (0917) 8485468.

**SEMINARS ON MINI-GARDEN, FLOWER ARRANGEMENT**
Ikenobo professor Serapion S. Metilla is conducting two seminars on plant art this month—Mini Waterfall Zen Garden for Indoor Meditation, Aug. 9-10; and Flower Arrangement with Flowershop Operation, Aug. 13-17. Photo shows recent graduates of Mini Waterfall Zen Garden seminar. Front row from left: Lando dela Cerna, Nestor Metilla, Andres Metilla and Miguel Culango. At the back, from left: Jocelyn Cariaso, Zenaida Borja Gonzales, Benita Chua, Metilla, Gloria de Castro Suratos and Myrna Gatchalian. Call 939-4593.

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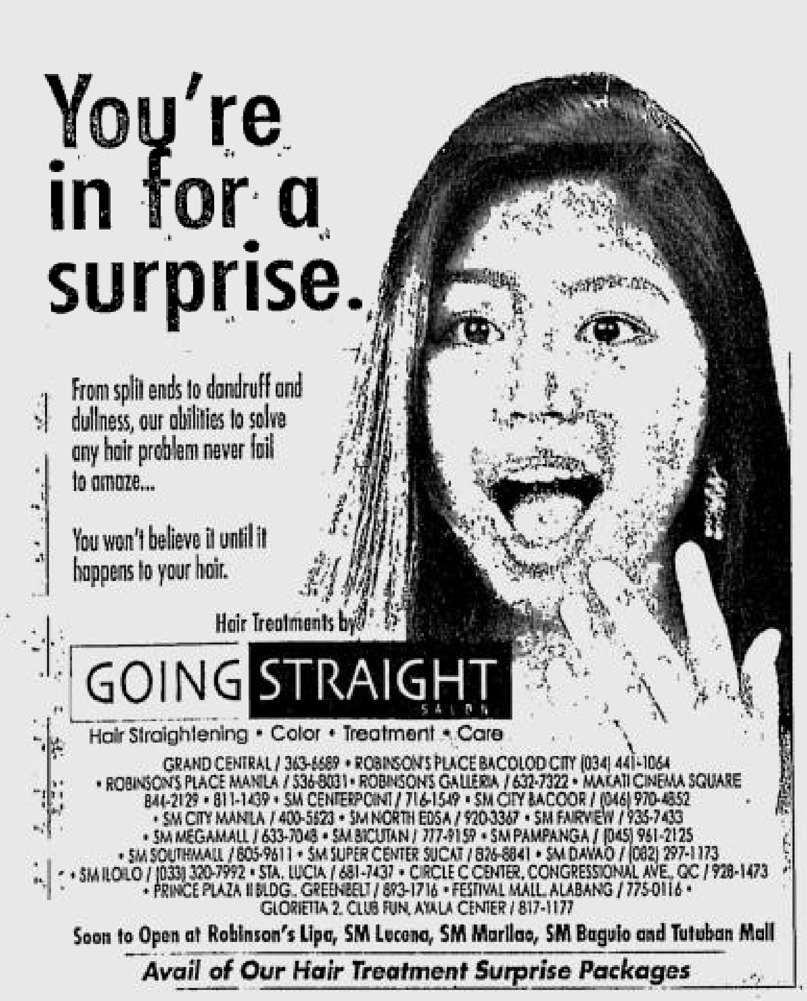
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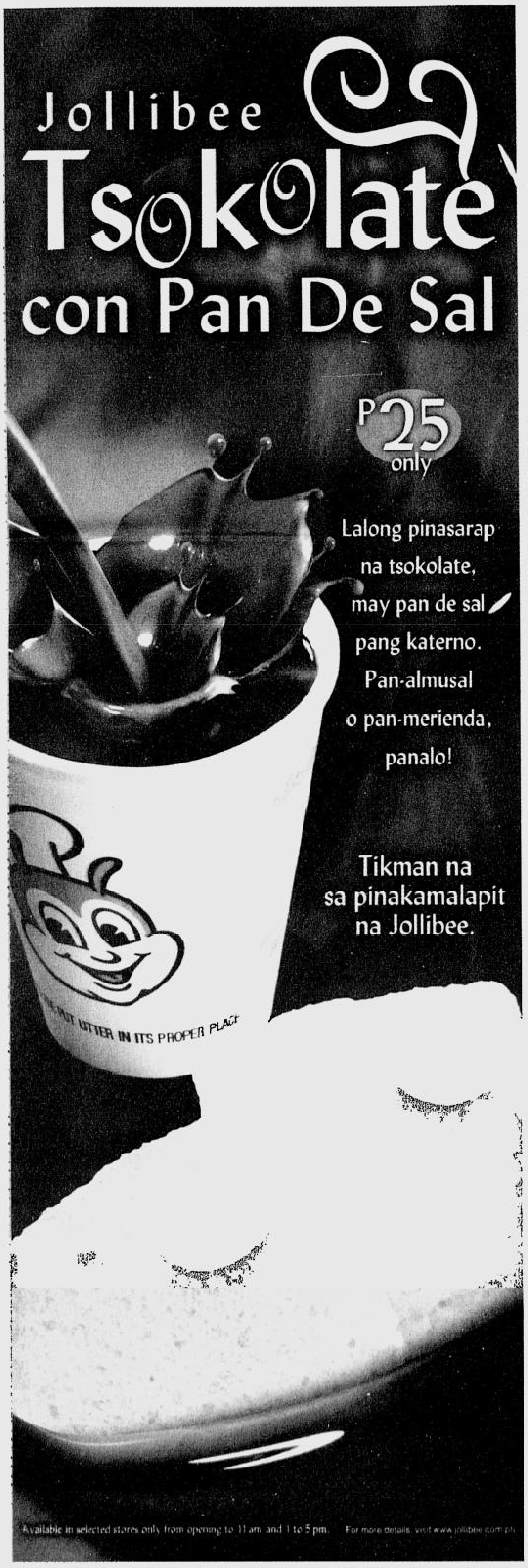
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# Residential condominium rises at heart of Edsa

THE GALLERIA Regency is a new residential condominium that rates first in accessibility.

The 33-story high Galleria Regency, one of the real estate jewels of the Robinsons Land Corp. (RLC), is strategically located. Standing beside the Robinsons Galleria shopping mall in Ortigas Center, it offers residents the convenience of living in a self-contained community. Several private and government establishments are readily accessible from the condominium.

Historic Edsa links Galleria Regency to different parts of Metro Manila cities.

But residents do not even have to stray far from the condominium for business meetings. Robinsons Equitable Tower and the Galleria Corporate Center are easily accessible. Residents can also hold conferences and special events at the Holiday Inn Galleria Manila, a premiere hotel located right across the Galleria Regency, or at the soon-to-open Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila Hotel.

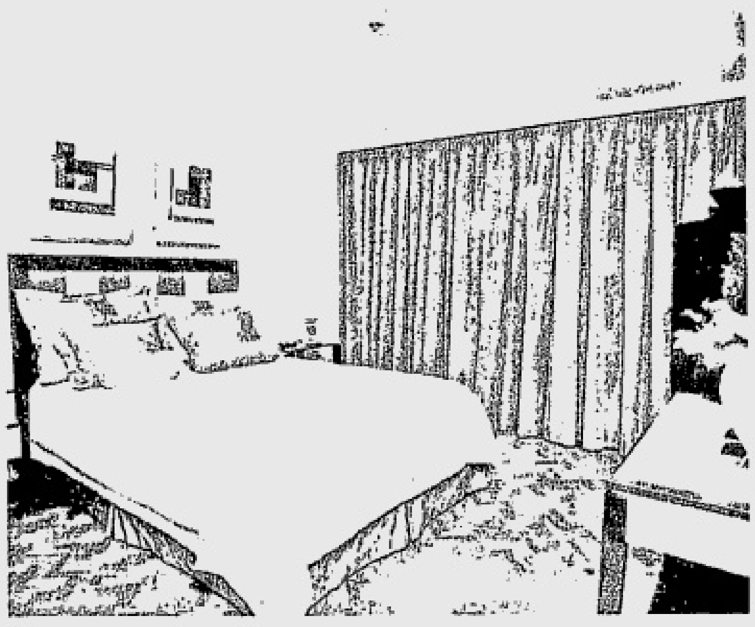
For other things residents might need, the Robinsons Galleria Mall, including the Robinsons Supermarket, offers a complete line of products and services.

The mall, with its hundreds of stores and boutiques, sells a wide selection of merchandise from furniture and decorative items to home appliances. It also has several restaurants, cafes and bars, as well as cinemas.

Galleria Regency offers residents and their guests the convenience of five-level basement parking, stand-by generator, 24-hour security, alarm system, fire detection and three passenger elevators.

Galleria Regency, which will be ready for occupancy in December 2003, has opened its model units to prospective customers. Interested buyers can see the model units at the 22nd Floor of Galleria Regency Ortigas corner ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center.

For details, call 6330888 or text 09175331339.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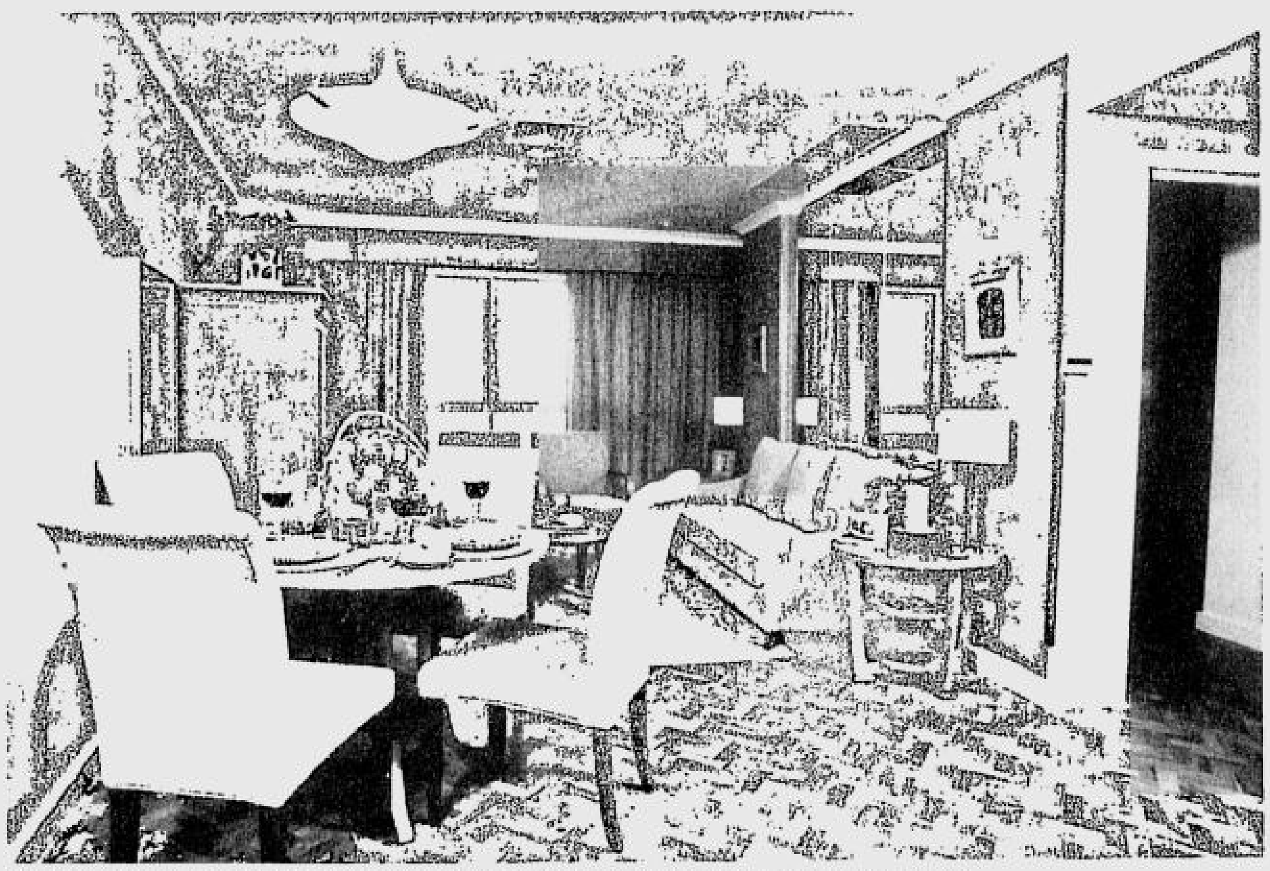
**CAREFUL** color selections and use of mirrors create an illusion of space for the entire unit.

## Self-creativity workshop

"TAPPING the Creative Universe" is a workshop that will help you uncover, identify and set aside the blocks that hinder creativity in your everyday life.

By actively engaging self-defeating attitudes and instilling practices that will help you overcome these attitudes, the workshop aims to awaken the inner joy and natural creative impulse you possess.

Through six two-hour sessions, the workshop will employ practical techniques developed by Jim Paredes, plus those found in "The Artist's Way" (by Julia Cameron and Mark Bryan).

These techniques have proven to be effective in helping individuals in any profession or situation in life who find themselves in a creative rut.

The workshop's schedule and contact details are as follows:

21st run: Aug. 18, 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29; 7 to 9 p.m. In Touch No. 48 McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City. Call 8937606 or 8106233. E-mail intouch@i-manila.com.ph

22nd run: Sept. 1,3,5,8,10 and 12; 7 to 9 p.m. Ricco-Renzo Galleries, G/f LRI Business Plaza, 210 N. Garcia St. (formerly Reposo), Bel Air II, Makati City. Call 8982542 to 43, or 8308141.

**HOME EXHIBIT**
**Alabang Town Center's "Behind Closed Doors" presents Home Exhibit today until Aug. 14. It features the creative constructions of Dawn Zulueta, Anton Barreto, Ana Castillo, Theresa Balaguer, Lexi Schulze, Angel Jacob and Angel Aquino.**

FRIDAY,
AUGUST 8, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

E1

LIFESTYLE

THE ONE and only Joe Salazar

# Joe Salazar gets his due

The designer, in the forefront of Philippine fashion for 33 years now, is the star of a retrospective showcasing his finest creations

**By Alex Y. Vergara**

AS ONE of the leading exponents of fashion in Asia, the Philippines has, oddly enough, yet to produce a retrospective of one of its finest couturiers' works—until now.

In a fitting tribute to the man and his art, ABS-CBN Publishing's Metro Magazine is currently staging an exhibit of designer Joe Salazar's best creations.

The two-week retrospective, which opened yesterday at the ELJ Communication Center (ABS-CBN Building) in Quezon City, showcases gowns Salazar did for the likes of President Macapagal-Arroyo, former First Lady Imelda Marcos, Imee Marcos, Tingting Cojuangco, Imelda Cojuangco, Irene Marcos-Araneta and Lucy Torres-Gomez. Indeed, an impressive list that encompasses socialites, celebrities, politicians and so-called women of substance.

## First

"A number of designers have staged their own retrospectives in the past," says Thelma Sioson San Juan, general manager of ABS-CBN Publishing and editor in chief of Metro. "But since none of them were produced by institutions, this [retrospective] is definitely the first of its kind in the country."

Apart from ABS-CBN Publishing, Salazar is getting ample support from good friend Ben Chan. It was Chan, top honcho of Bench, who produced Salazar's first and so far only solo fashion show in 1979.

Ricco and Tina Ocampo have lent their mannequins, while Triple V and Tapas Bar provided food for the affair. Chan, together with Torres-Gomez, INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez, ABS-CBN Publishing president Ernesto Lopez and Imelda Cojuangco, officially opened the retrospective.

Salazar, now 59, has been in the forefront of the fashion business for almost 33 years now. He was studying architecture at the Mapua Institute of Technology when he realized his true calling. He studied for a year at Slim's before joining Ben Farrales for another year as his apprentice.

Aside from showcasing his genius in

JOE/ E2

Real People. True Stories.

"Now great skin runs in the family – thanks to Imedeen!"

Cynthia Elazegui Sanchez,
41, HR Manager
Cristy Elazegui Puzon,
40, Airline Ticketing Supervisor

Like all sisters, they share secrets. Like the beauty secret that keeps them looking so young for their age.

"I learned of Imedeen thru my colleague," Cristy confides. "I immediately convinced Cynthia to try it." Pretty soon, both sisters were hooked, and for good reason. "I thought my sunspots and blemishes were there for good – but now they're completely gone," Cynthia shares. "My skin really improved. Feeling ko parang skin ng baby," declares Cristy. That's because only Imedeen helps nourish and strengthen the inner layer of the skin, resulting in more youthful, brighter and even skin tone.

"We're each other's best friends," Cynthia exclaims. 'But we both agree, ang best friend ng skin namin is Imedeen!"

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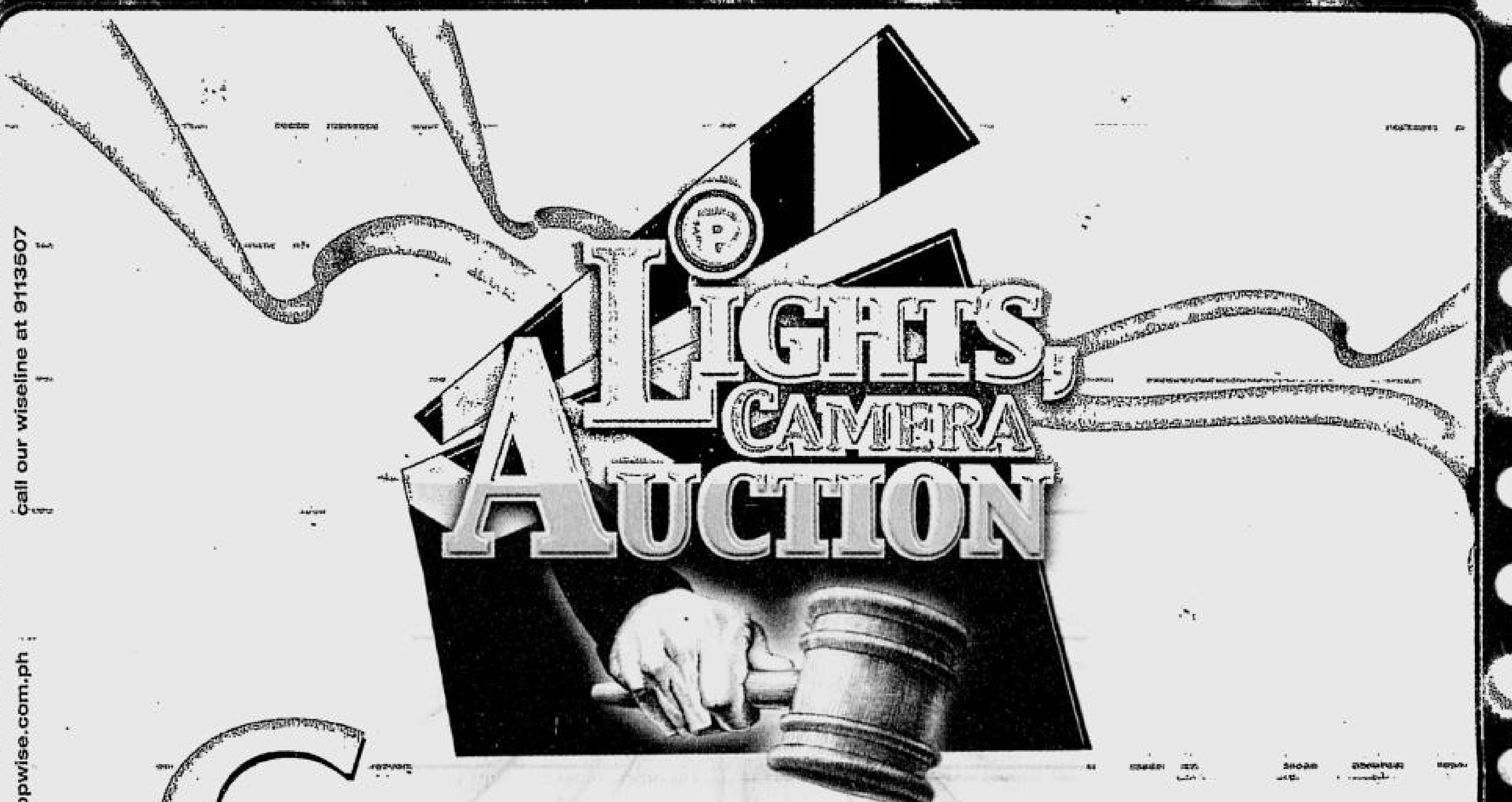

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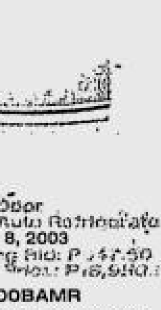
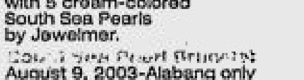


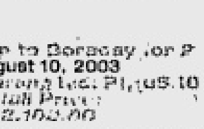
GE 2-Door Semi-Auto Refrigerator
August 8, 2003
Starting Bid: P[illegible]
Retail Price: P16,990.00
**GMV100BAMR**
direct cool refrigerators, 0.3 Cubic metre, White.



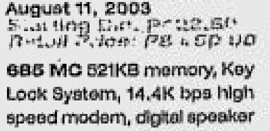
South Sea Pearl Bracelet
August 9, 2003-Makati only
Starting Bid: P[illegible]
Retail Price: P[illegible]
**S-BL 3518**
Sterling silver bracelet with 5 cream-colored South Sea Pearls by Jewelmer.

South Sea Pearl Bracelet
August 9, 2003-Alabang only
Starting Bid: P[illegible]
Retail Price: P17,788.00
**S-BL 3519**
Sterling silver bracelet with 5 light champagne-colored South Sea Pearls byJewelmer.

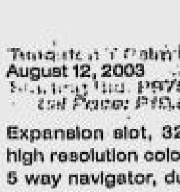
South Sea Pearl Bracelet
August 9, 2003-Libis only
Starting Bid: P[illegible]
Retail Price: P[illegible]
**S-BL 3618**
Sterling silver bracelet with 5 white-colored South Sea Pearls by Jewelmer.



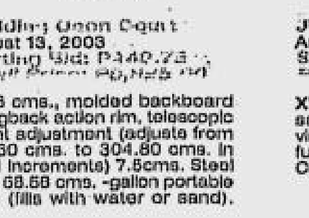
Trip to Boracay for 2
August 10, 2003
Starting Bid: P1,[illegible]
Retail Price: P[illegible]
Mla.-Kalibo-Mla. 3D/2N hotel accommodations at Sea Wind Hotel, with free breakfast, room based on twin sharing. Travel anytime between Sept. 1, 2003-Feb. 29, 2004. Except on Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2003, Dec. 15, 2003-Jan. 7, 2004 and Jan. 19-25, 2004.



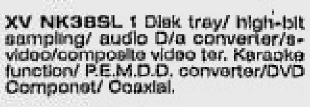
Brother Fax Machine
August 11, 2003
Starting Bid: P[illegible]
Retail Price: P[illegible]
**685 MC** 521KB memory, Key Lock System, 14.4K bps high speed modem, digital speaker phone, enhanced image resolution.



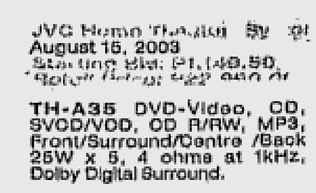
Tungsten T Palm Pilot
August 12, 2003
Starting Bid: P979.00
Retail Price: P19,500.00
Expansion slot, 320 x 320 high resolution color display, 5 way navigator, dual mode slider, speaker, antenna for wireless access to email and the internet.



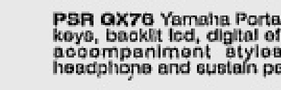
Spalding Open Court
August 13, 2003
Starting Bid: P440.73
Retail Price: P[illegible]
111.76 cms., molded backboard springback action rim, telescopic height adjustment (adjusts from 228.60 cms. to 304.80 cms. in 15.24 increments) 7.6cms. Steel pole, 68.58 cms. -gallon portable base (fills with water or sand).



JVC DVD Player
August 14, 2003
Starting Bid: P340.50
Retail Price: P[illegible]
**XV NK38SL** 1 Disk tray/ high-bit sampling/ audio D/a converter/s-video/composite video ter. Karaoke function/ P.E.M.D.D. converter/DVD Componet/ Coaxial.



JVC Home Theater System
August 15, 2003
Starting Bid: P1,149.50
Retail Price: P[illegible]
**TH-A35** DVD-Video, CD, SVCD/VCD, CD R/RW, MP3, Front/Surround/Centre /Back 25W x 5, 4 ohms at 1kHz, Dolby Digital Surround.



Yamaha Organ
August 16, 2003
Starting Bid: P1,617.0[illegible]
Retail Price: P32,340.00
**PSR GX76** Yamaha Portasound, 76 keys, backlit lcd, digital effects, 100 accompaniment styles, 8 kg., headphone and sustain pedal jacks.

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ALABANG [illegible] MAKATI [illegible] LIBIS [illegible]

**GRETCHEN** Cojuangco wore this blue silk organza *terno* when she was a principal sponsor in a wedding.

**IMELDA** Marcos wore this draped chiffon and guipure lace *terno* during her last public appearance as First Lady on the balcony of Malacañang.

**LUCY** Torres-Gomez wore this seven-layered fuchsia silk organza gown, accented with maroon velvet ribbons, at the recent Urian Awards.

# Joe Salazar gets his due

From page E1

> Through this exhibit, Salazar can teach young designers important lessons in the art and craft of fashion designing

PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO MAGAZINE

such areas as construction, draping, embroidery, beadwork and detailing, the retrospective aims to impart among the country's younger crop of designers valuable lessons in craftsmanship, discipline and pride in one's work.

Admission to the retrospective is free.

## Golden age

It was in the 1970s, says San Juan, when the golden era of Philippine fashion began. Competing designers such as Salazar, Gang Gomez, Inno Sotto, Ernest Santiago, Auggie Cordero and ready-to-wear pioneers Larry Silva and Rusty Lopez set trends and eventually blazed the trail for future designers.

"We belong to an earlier period when materials weren't as readily available as they are now," recalls Salazar. "Today, designers have access to almost all kinds of materials."

If anything, the retrospective is a must-see for design students and budding designers.

From a vocational course, fashion design as a discipline has been slowly gaining the respect and attention it deserves. It is now being offered by some of the country's leading colleges and universities such as the University of the Philippines, De La Salle University and St. Scholastica's College.

"It's about time the younger generation become aware not only of the name, but also the craftsmanship of Joe and his contemporaries," says San Juan. "We also want to instill in them pride in the artistry of the Filipino designer. After all, we were very much ahead of our Asian neighbors when it came to fashion design."

San Juan first thought of staging the retrospective a few months ago while interviewing Salazar in his atelier in Malate. He was just recovering from a year-long battle with throat cancer, and was again swamped with work doing gowns for the likes of then debutante KC Concepcion and brides Kakai Manotok and Peggy Ty.

Torres-Gomez, Salazar's current muse, never fails to dazzle movie fans every time she graces awards nights with husband Richard Gomez. Her strapless fuchsia gown with a seven-layered silk-organza skirt accented with maroon velvet ribbons and clusters of Swarovski crystals is among the show's featured pieces.

"You don't have to be old or dead to have a retrospective," says San Juan. "Balenciaga and Charles James didn't last more than a decade, but they made their mark. It has nothing to do with age, but with one's body of work."

**IRENE** Araneta wore this iridescent satin crepe and lace hand-pleated gown with kaña maso sleeves to the wedding of the Prince of Brunei in 2002.

## Art form

For this retrospective, San Juan wisely did away with a fashion show. She didn't want fashion, which she deems a serious art form, to compete with other forms of distraction.

In lieu of made-up models, pulsating music, elaborate sets and dazzling lights, she chose faceless mannequins to showcase Salazar's pieces. Each gown is accompanied by a caption describing the gown and identifying its wearer.

"Nothing will get in the way of the clothes," she says.

Not the heart-racing swimwear collection or the sleight-of-hand "close-open" portion that were so *de rigueur* in many a luncheon fashion shows Salazar and his colleagues participated in regularly during the '70s.

(You can't blame Salazar and company from resorting to such gimmicks to gain attention and media mileage. Generating publicity was much harder back then, he says. Unlike some designers today, Salazar and his contemporaries didn't hire publicists to advertise their work.)

Not wont to give unsolicited advice to younger, more experimental designers, Salazar finally relents.

"Their energy and wealth of ideas are amazing," he says of today's young designers. "They're definitely products of their generation. Unfortunately, they tend to lose their focus by trying out so many things."

Not that Salazar didn't venture into unchartered territory. His daring efforts to push the envelope resulted in a number of firsts that not a few wannabes imitated but failed miserably to execute.

*THE DESIGNER and the terno fit for a fighting President Macapagal-Arroyo* RANDY HORMILLOSA

**DEBUTANTE** KC Concepcion floats in Salazar's feathered ball gown.

**ILOCOS** Norte Rep. Imee Marcos wore this gown to a friend's wedding in France. The deconstructed corset is made of peach crepe de chine fabric.

"In the end," he says, "they have to start focusing on their strengths before they lose their focus."

More than a historical record of Salazar's three-decade career (like where on earth can one find the pantsuit he did for Nora Aunor in the early '70s, which the Superstar wore in a softdrink commercial?), the retrospective is a showcase of his talent and love for his craft.

So for his part, he had to select not only his best and most definitive pieces. "They have to be in good condition," says the soft-spoken designer. "The owners' willingness to lend their gowns also figured in the selection process."

Owing to Salazar's high-profile clientele, however, it was impossible for his brand of fashion and the country's checkered history not to cross paths. As one of Imelda's favored designers, he did the former First Lady's *ternos* from 1979 to 1986, averaging at least 10 gowns a month.

Since Imelda's vision of "the true, the good and the beautiful" revolved around projecting the country's best to the world, she asked Salazar to do gowns that would showcase local arts and culture.

Not only did the designer stand up to the challenge by creating pieces with elegant embroidery, seamless draping and meticulous beadwork, he further pushed the envelope by incorporating untried and untested materials such as horsehair and peacock feathers, to name a few.

## Teacher

Like a teacher who learns from his students, the designer also learns a thing or two from his star clients.

"She looked perfect in a *terno*," says Salazar of Imelda. "She was meticulous when it comes to fitting and details. I learned a great deal from [dealing with] her."

The retrospective includes the *terno* Imelda wore in 1986, before she and Marcos were booted from power in the Edsa Revolution. The beleaguered former First Lady was photographed wearing the white, draped chiffon number with guipure lace while waving at supporters from the balcony of Malacañang.

Seventeen years later, another powerful but besieged woman wore Salazar's creation. In her recent State of the Nation Address, a day after quashing the Oakwood mutiny, the diminutive President Macapagal-Arroyo stood tall in the designer's Grecian-inspired French chiffon *terno* in violet with a hint of Swarovski crystals, and fuchsia and yellow fabrics.

The gown is also one of the show's featured pieces. Although it was quite a "challenge" to dress up the President, Salazar came up with

**IMEE** Marcos wears a multi-layered, electric-pleated chartreuse organza gown with silk orchids clustered at the waist to this year's Famas Awards.

**TINGTING** Cojuangco in a Maria Clara-inspired *jusi* and horsehair callado gown with hand-made silk flowers, which she wore at the 1998 Julio Iglesias concert at the Manila Hotel.

**PEGGY** Ty wears a Maria Clara-inspired gown at her wedding in June 2003. Salazar used *piña* cloth lined with pure silk organza. The gown was partially embroidered and accented with seed pearls and Swarovski crystals.

**IMELDA** Cojuangco wears a banana fiber gown accentuated with horse hair guipure lace and Chantilly lace, circa 1989.

a silhouette that flattered her petite frame.

"The trick is to come up with the right proportions," he says. "The material needs to be soft, the silhouette close to the body. Less is more for the President."

Aside from Torres-Gomez, Salazar considers Imee Marcos as one of his favorite clients. Not only is the former Presidential daughter and senator wannabe loaded with attitude, she also has a well-proportioned body that she uses to her advantage to pull off almost any kind of cut and silhouette.

One of Salazar's favorite pieces is the deconstructed corset made of peach crepe de chine Imee wore in France. It was a difficult piece to make since the designer had to use parts of the reverse side of the fabric.

By knowing what works for them, Salazar also cites Imelda Cojuangco, Tingting Cojuangco and Kit Zobel as impeccable dressers despite their different ages and styles.

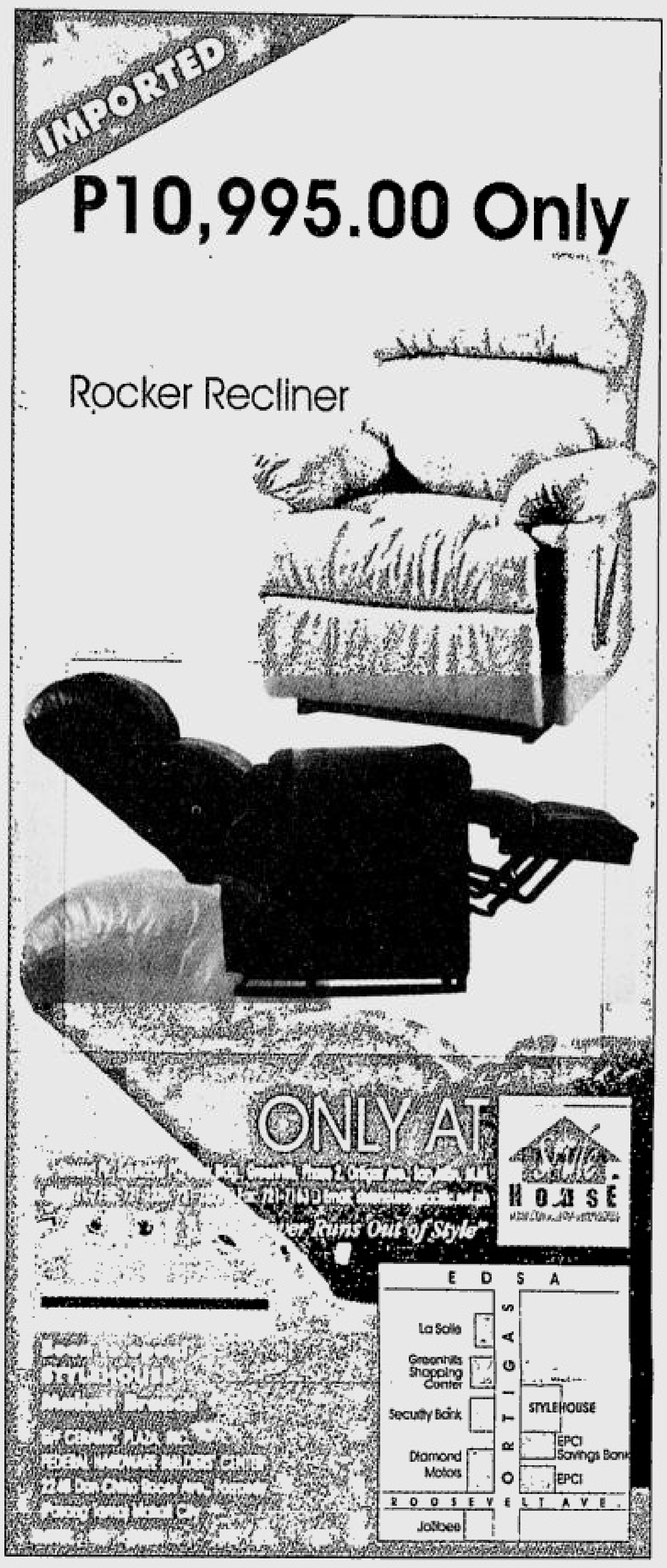
"Before, some clients used to insist on providing unsolicited inputs with regard to their gowns," he recalls with amusement. "Today, hardly any of them meddle. They come here and leave it all up to me. It helps a lot that I know what the occasion is, their respective personalities and lifestyles."

That he has earned the trust of these hard-to-please women is another testament to his creativity, discipline and dedication as a designer. More than the media hype, Salazar lets his track record and body of work speak for himself.

A retrospective of his best works staged by an independent institution merely reaffirms what everybody has known all along.

*E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph*

The Salazar retrospective, which is free to the public, is ongoing until Aug. 21 at the ABS-CBN building in Quezon City



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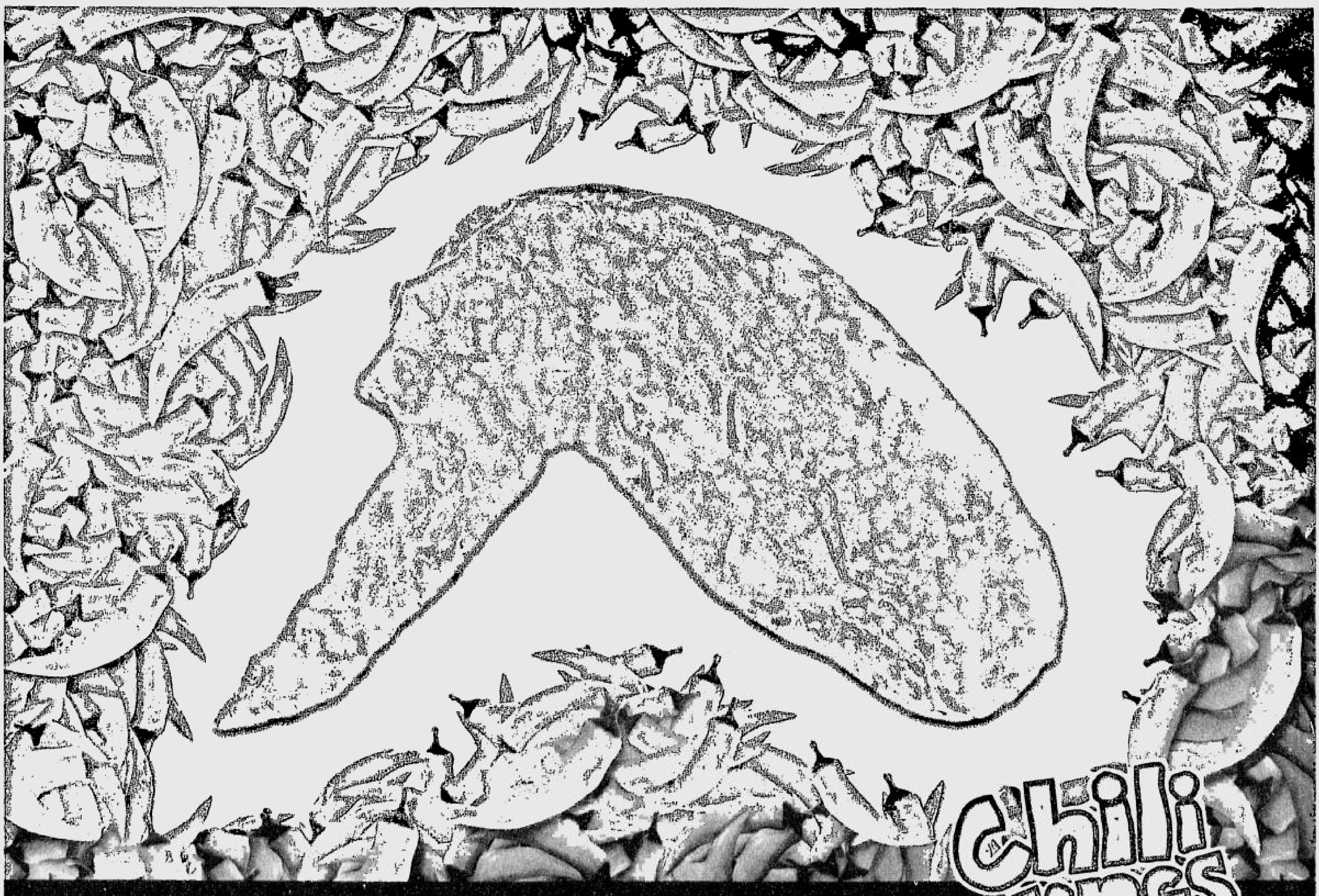

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Bite into a scintillating mix of red-hot chili sweetness. Deep-fried golden chicken wings tumbled in a mouth-watering sweet-chili sauce. Jollibee's Chili Wings. It's the hottest trip in town.

# High-tech active wear and Hollywood-like hair extensions

**APPLES' PICKINGS**

*Apples Aberin-Sadhwani*

**WHAT'S so special about all these new-fangled, high-tech sportswear like ClimaCool of Adidas and Dry-fit and Sphere of Nike? I'm starting to build my workout and badminton wardrobe, and I'm not sure if I should invest in these things (they are not that cheap, after all) or stick to good old-fashioned cotton. Also, is it really important to use specific kinds of athletic shoes for specific activities? Can't I wear a pair of rubber shoes simply because they look good with my outfit?**

Cotton tops and shorts or jogging pants are acceptable and practical attire for the gym, badminton and most any sport.

Cotton is a natural, breathable fabric, after all. But there are definite advantages in donning those so-called "new-fangled" athletic wear.

According to Angelica Suiza, marketing director of Adidas Philippines, the Clima technology was developed for purposes of moisture management, to promote optimum performance in athletes and sports enthusiasts.

Climalite, which preceded ClimaCool, focuses on essential moisture management with the use of a breathable fabric that helps remove moisture, avoid overheating and stem energy loss.

Taking it one step further, Adidas developed ClimaCool, which possesses the above-mentioned attributes and more. Besides managing moisture more efficiently, ClimaCool also provides ventilation through the use of an even more breathable fabric. So above and beyond keeping the body temperature constant, it is lighter, more dynamic and comfortable.

"The Ateneo basketball players wear ClimaCool apparel during their UAAP games. And because their apparel doesn't hold water or trap moisture, we noticed that the players look cooler and fresher during and after their games," says Suiza.

Meanwhile, Rely San Agustin, marketing communications executive of Nike Philippines Inc., extols the virtues of both Dry-fit and Sphere technology.

"It's all about performance products that technically attract and help evaporate sweat from your body. These products keep you cool and light as opposed to cotton that will definitely get heavy from moisture."

Sphere basically has the same principles as Dry-fit technology. The only difference is that Sphere does not cling to the body. In any case, San Agustin highly recommends both for maximum comfort and for all kinds of sports or athletic activities.

As for your shoe query, Suiza suggests you "find the shoe that fits your lifestyle." She says that you should protect your knee and feet by wearing the right shoe for a specific activity.

"The moment you do sports, do not compromise your health and safety by wearing the wrong pair of shoes. Maximum protection and optimum performance should always be your goal."

San Agustin also stresses the importance of using the right shoes for a particular activity. "The wrong shoes can cause injury. At Nike, make sure you consult with our sales staff who can give you good advice on the perfect pair," he says.

Having heard all these advice from the experts, allow the fashionista in me to address your concern about matching your outfit with your shoes.

The best thing to do is to build your workout/badminton wardrobe around colors that you can mix and match. This way, you can choose a pair of cross-trainers (for the gym) and court shoes (for badminton) that will match most, if not all, of your outfits.

There are now countless styles and colors of athletic wear and shoes to choose from. So go ahead and be your fashionable self as you sweat away in the gym or on the courts.

**I'm wondering if you would know about salons that offer hair extension services? My birthday is coming up and my hair is not as long as I want it to be. I want it to be way past my shoulders, as compared to my present nape-length hair. Please help!**

Hair extensions are a fun, fashionable way to create a totally new, exciting look (not to mention the perfect birthday treat!).

The likes of Gwyneth Paltrow, J.Lo and Jennifer Aniston have been spotted wearing extra-long extensions at various Hollywood events. Even Oscar winner Halle Berry has traded in her short pixie do for a mid-length style that she's sporting for a particular movie role.

The good news is that you can also have your tresses lengthened, thickened or highlighted right here in Manila.

Beauty doyen Fanny Serrano offers Bergmann hair extensions at his salon. All you have to do is set an appointment at your convenience for a free consultation.

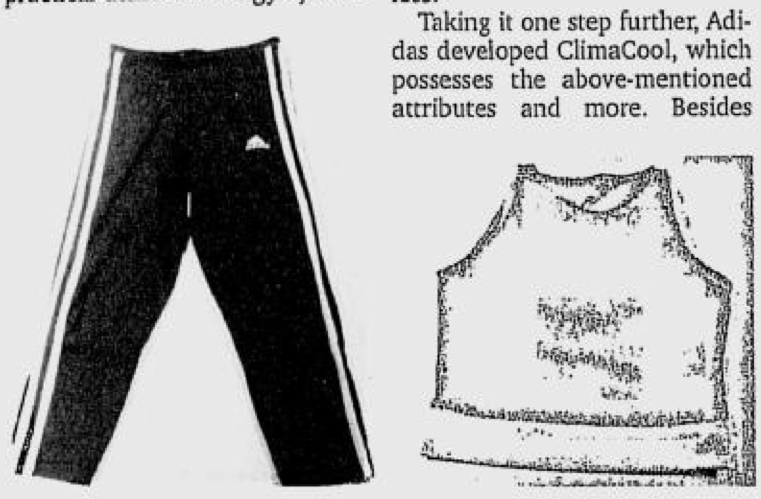
During the consultation, Fanny or any one of his skillful staff will explain the whole process and determine the number and length of strands you will need to achieve the look you want.

Then once you've decided to go ahead with the extensions, they will get your hair sample and send it to their suppliers in the US. After two to three weeks, the hair strands will be in Manila, all ready for attachment.

Fanny says, "The best part about these extensions is that you can swim, take a shower, style (blow-dry, curl, iron and the like) or color it and do just about anything. We make use of real, unprocessed hair, which we cut or trim to blend with your short hair. What's more, you can wear it for six months while you are growing out your real hair. And depending on your needs, you may also choose to wear it for one occasion, remove after and reuse another time."

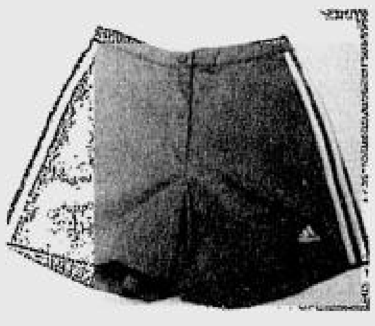
*Fanny Serrano's salon is located at 69 Scout Rallos St., Quezon City. Call 925-5251 and 53. Or you may contact Fanny directly at 0917-5376168.*

*E-mail the author at apsadvice@hotmail.com*



**ADIDAS** jogging pants and top in Climalite fabric

**CLOTHES** and shoes by Adidas



**BREATHABLE** Climalite shorts by Adidas

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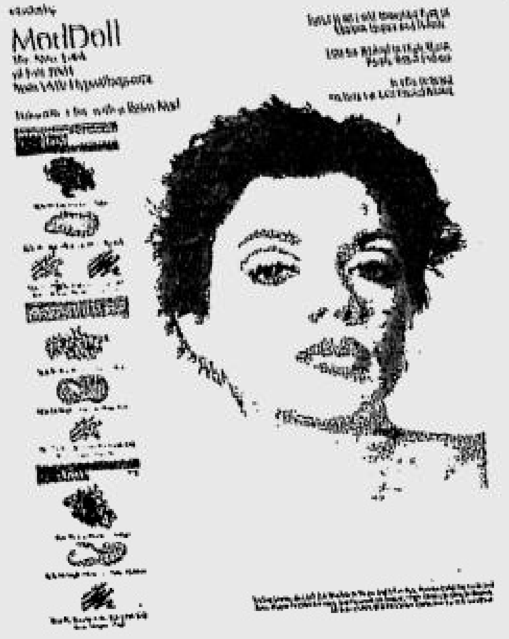
# LIFESTYLE Beauty



VMV has a modish new makeup collection, while two salons offer outstanding services for face, hands and feet

**MOD Doll harks back to the '60s**

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# Hot treats for August

MAKEOVER 911

*Kinny Salas*

MAKEUP. VMV is off to an early start by introducing its makeup line's Fall Collection called the "Mod Doll."

As the name implies, VMV's creative team got it's inspiration from the '60s when makeup steered clear of deep red lips and focused instead on smoldering eyes.

The face is very matte with no blush, and eyes are smoky and mysterious. Lips are sheer, dewy and slightly tinted with VMV's Lip Dew glosses.

As usual, VMV made sure finding the perfect colors for the many Filipina types wouldn't be a problem by giving us three sets of choices.

The Lip Dew line carries the name of the sets, like Beatnick peach gloss on a model with taupe eyeshadow, Soho deep berry with grey shadow, and Groovy-brown-pink gloss with indigo eyes.

Groovy is the most universal lip dew color, while Beatnick and Soho are more "niche." I feel Soho is more suitable for the typical Asian coloring.

**Dermalogica**, 6/F Rustan's Makati. What makes this brand such a standout as a skin care line is that it was developed by the International Dermal Institute, a training school for dermatologists.

Everything a good dermatologist who studied in this school had to know about the best skin care ingredients was incorporated in these products.

Its trademark innovation is "Face Mapping," which divides the skin into 14 distinct zones—including the ears—each with its own set of problems and unique needs. Using the zones and the Dermalogica Face Map as a guide, a doctor can more accurately diagnose your skin type, rather than the usual "T-zone and cheeks" or the even more usual "dry, balanced or oily" classifications.

I have gotten three different diagnoses from other skin tests: combination, normal to oily and acne-prone. But with Dermalogica's skin mapping, I got the most accurate—oily!

It was very disconcerting to learn how congested my facial skin was, despite its clear-looking surface.

Right now, Dermalogica has nine standout treatments—six facials and three body treatments. I highly recommend the soothing facial, which was used on me because I was on Tretinoin for acne, so my skin was very sensitive at the time. It reduced the redness, soreness and flakiness, and I also fell asleep.

The service costs only P995 as an introductory offer and lasts 60 minutes. In Hollywood, Jennifer Aniston uses the Multivitamin Power Concentrate, Sarah Michelle Gellar the Dermal Clay Cleanser and Lucy Liu the Solar De-

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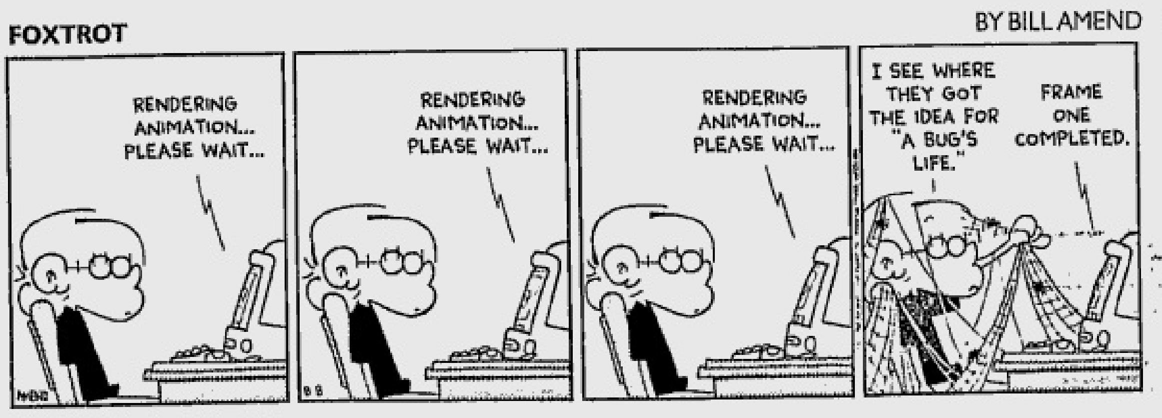
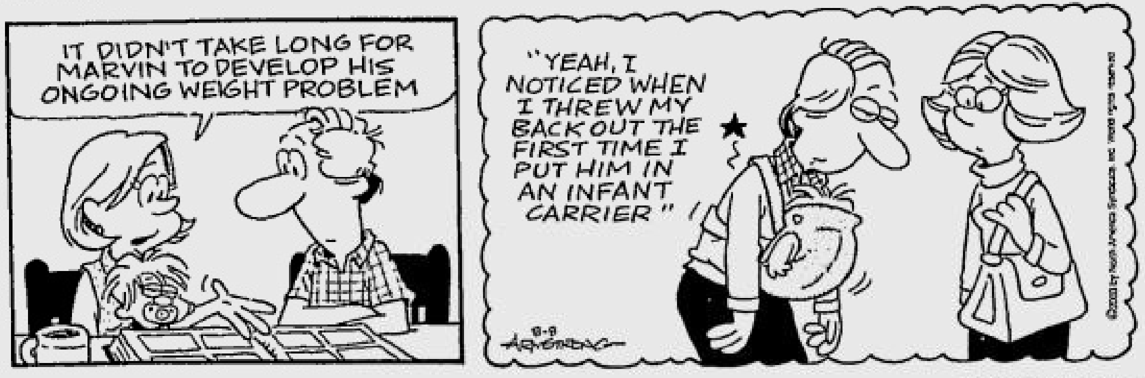
## FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


RENDERING ANIMATION... PLEASE WAIT...
RENDERING ANIMATION... PLEASE WAIT...
RENDERING ANIMATION... PLEASE WAIT...
I SEE WHERE THEY GOT THE IDEA FOR "A BUG'S LIFE."
FRAME ONE COMPLETED.

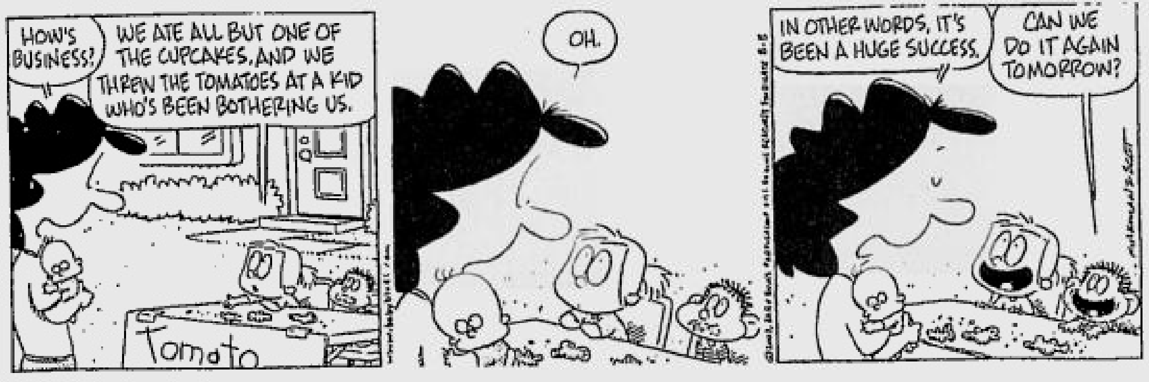
## MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR MARVIN TO DEVELOP HIS ONGOING WEIGHT PROBLEM
"YEAH, I NOTICED WHEN I THREW MY BACK OUT THE FIRST TIME I PUT HIM IN AN INFANT CARRIER"

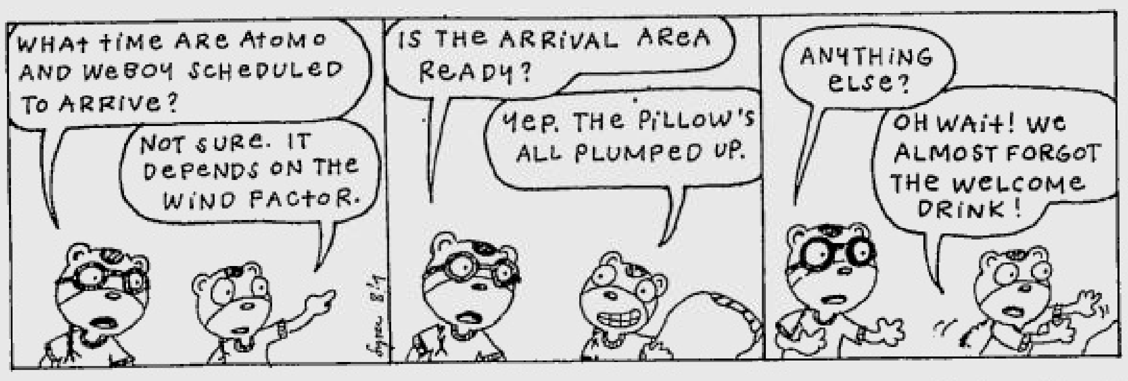
## BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


HOW'S BUSINESS?
WE ATE ALL BUT ONE OF THE CUPCAKES, AND WE THREW THE TOMATOES AT A KID WHO'S BEEN BOTHERING US.
Tomato
OH.
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S BEEN A HUGE SUCCESS.
CAN WE DO IT AGAIN TOMORROW?

## ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


WHAT TIME ARE ATOMO AND WEBOY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE?
NOT SURE. IT DEPENDS ON THE WIND FACTOR.
IS THE ARRIVAL AREA READY?
YEP. THE PILLOW'S ALL PLUMPED UP.
ANYTHING ELSE?
OH WAIT! WE ALMOST FORGOT THE WELCOME DRINK!

## HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

**YOU BORN TODAY:** Without question, you are versatile and multitalented. Because of this, it's sometimes hard for you to know what you want to be when you grow up. You do so many things so well! You are responsible, conscientious and always prepared for the job at hand. Fascinating choices present themselves to you this year. Choose wisely. **Birthdate of:** Deborah Norville, TV journalist; Dustin Hoffman, actor; Mel Tillis, country singer.

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** A conversation with a boss or a parent might be significant for you today. Prepare for a mild but unexpected surprise. You might have to make a quick decision.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20):** You have an urge to escape from wherever you are today. You need a change of scenery and a whole new set of faces. There's too much of the "same old, same old" for you right now.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** Do some practical work with respect to bills, insurance matters, estates and inheritances. Clean up some loose details. You'll feel pleased with yourself afterward.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** The Moon opposes your sign today, and this means you have to give a little more. You have to go more than halfway when dealing with others. (You can do this.)

**LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22):** Make an extra effort today to get better organized both at home and at work. Arrange things so that you can put your hand on something right away when you need it.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22):** You might be surprised to find that somebody is flirting with you today. Consider it a harmless admiration. Why don't you wink back?

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** Put some extra energy into your domestic scene today. Home and family matters take top priority now. (Your social schedule has robbed you of some time normally spent here.)

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** This is a good day to talk to siblings and relatives—especially female relatives. It's also a good day for shopping, buying and selling, and general troubleshooting.

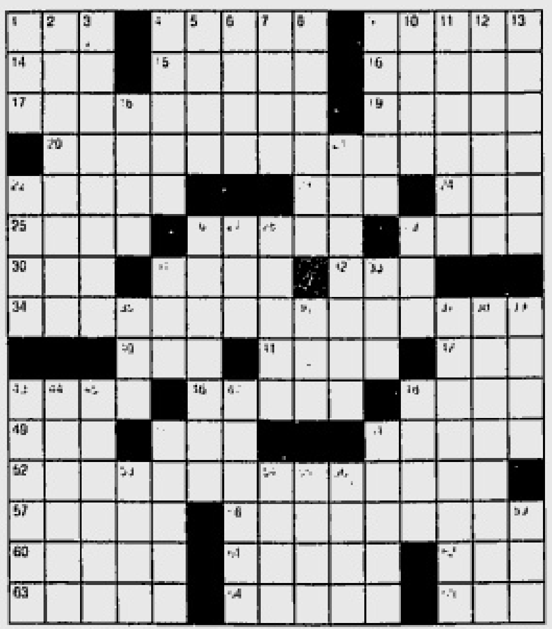
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** You might encounter a quick opportunity to make money in an unusual or unexpected way. If this is the case, you should know that this window of opportunity will be very brief.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19):** The Moon is in your sign today, dear Capricorn. This definitely gives you an advantage in all your dealings with others. Don't hesitate to use it!

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18):** By nature, you are a strong networker; however, even you need to rest sometimes. Try to get a little peace and quiet to be by yourself today.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20):** A female friend might be helpful today. Talk to a friend or relative to get her feedback about something. This might be important.

## DAILY CROSSWORD



By Matthew Higgins
Concord, NH

8/8/03

ACROSS
1 Hwy. radios
4 Speech imperfections
9 Large African antelope
14 Coach Parseghian
15 Muslim religion
16 Madrid mister
17 Skier's direction
19 Sample
20 Everything
22 Saw wood?
23 Faucet
24 Summer in Rouen
25 Old money in Milan
26 Wild party
29 Pitcher Hershiser
30 Blockhead
31 Extra dry
32 Ford or Dodge
34 Everything
40 Bond creator Fleming
41 Dregs
42 Pair
43 "White Men __ Jump"
46 Staffs
48 Sample tape
49 Exploit
50 That lady
51 Was sick
52 Everything
57 Classic single
58 Perceptive impression
60 Erroneous
61 Former Russian rulers
62 Expected to arrive
63 Less constrained
64 Alphabetizes
65 Winter hrs. in Boston

DOWN
1 Lout
2 Somewhat tanned
3 Trestle
4 Strong cotton thread
5 Capri or Man
6 Slovenly one
7 Hemingway's sobriquet
8 Small silvery fish
9 Prohibit legally
10 Table insert
11 Reply
12 Write a score
13 Philadelphia university
18 "You've Got Mail" director Ephron
21 Door fastenings
22 Blind strip
26 Trachea branch: pref.
27 __ Abner
28 Fred's dancing sister
29 Sphere
31 So that's it!
33 DDE's opponent
35 Emma Thompson film
36 Stitch
37 Capital of South Australia
38 Existing in abundance
39 Yummy
43 Terminate abruptly
44 Masonry block
45 Tease
47 Ancient items
48 __ of Worms
50 Diaphanous
51 Wrong
53 Sensible
54 Automaker Ferrari
55 Hollywood headliner
56 Offended
59 Bottom line

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | E | L | ■ | A | T | O | M | ■ | A | B | B | A | S |
| R | E | N | E | ■ | M | I | R | A | ■ | S | L | A | N | T |
| C | A | G | E | ■ | O | R | A | L | ■ | P | O | L | I | O |
| H | U | R | R | I | C | A | N | E | S | E | A | S | O | N |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | N | O | D | ■ | ■ | O | C | T | A | N | E |
| E | T | H | A | N | ■ | E | V | E | N | T | S | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| L | O | O | S | E | S | ■ | A | M | A | ■ | ■ | E | F | F |
| L | O | W | P | R | E | S | S | U | R | E | A | R | E | A |
| A | L | I | ■ | ■ | T | E | E | ■ | S | A | C | R | E | D |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | L | A | T | E | S | T | ■ | R | E | S | T | S |
| S | T | R | O | V | E | ■ | ■ | U | S | N | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| T | H | E | P | E | R | F | E | C | T | S | T | O | R | M |
| R | E | S | I | N | ■ | E | L | K | E | ■ | R | H | E | A |
| A | M | O | N | G | ■ | M | A | I | M | ■ | A | I | D | S |
| W | E | D | G | E | ■ | A | N | N | S | ■ | P | O | O | H |

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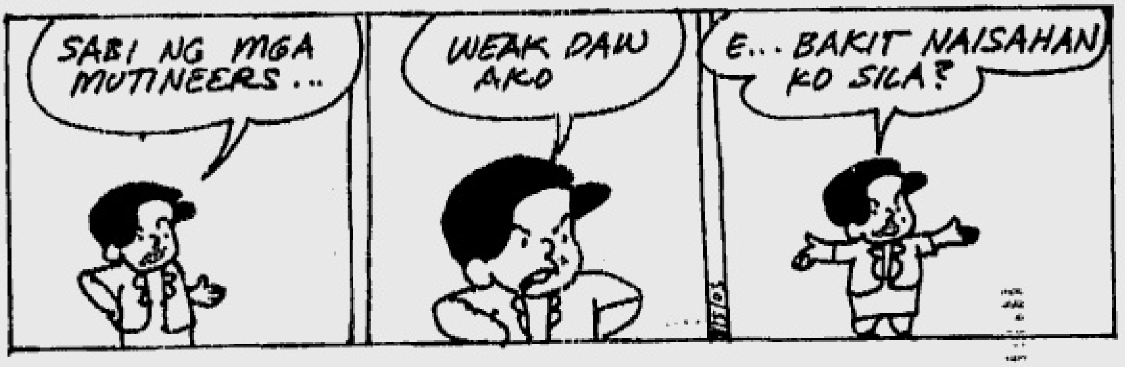
8/8/03

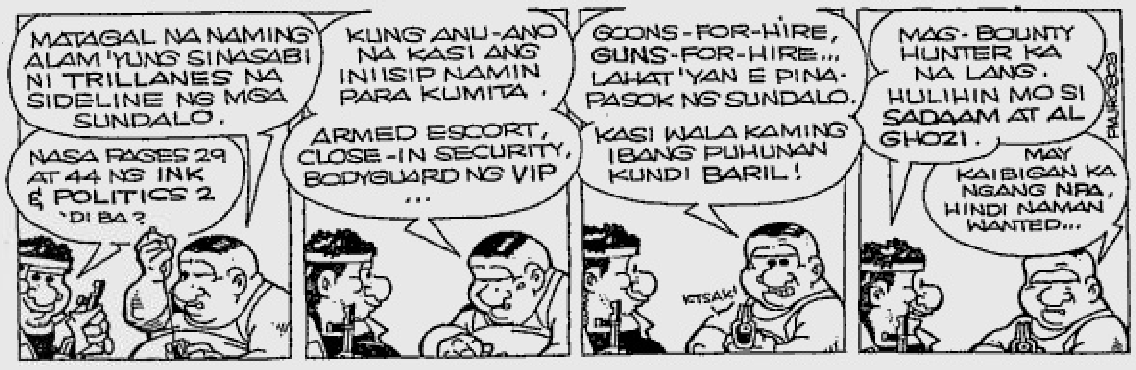
## A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


SABI NG MGA MUTINEERS...
WEAK DAW AKO
E... BAKIT NAISAHAN KO SILA?

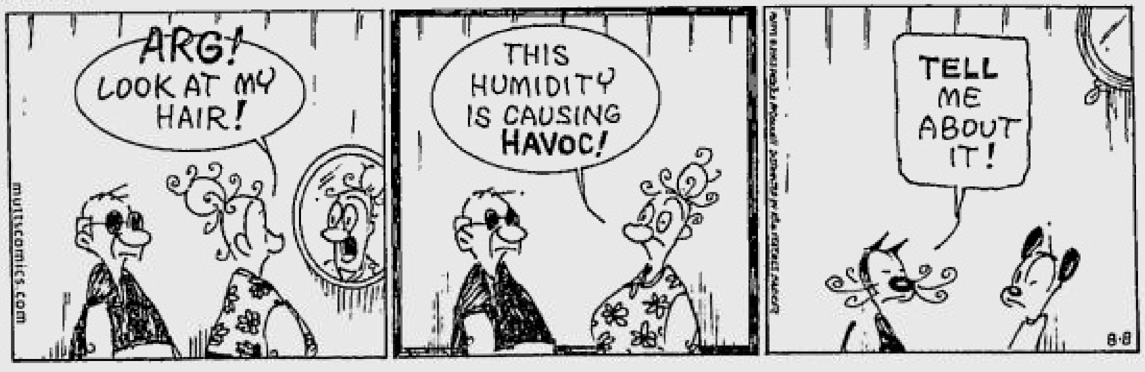
## PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


MATAGAL NA NAMING ALAM 'YUNG SINASABI NI TRILLANES NA SIDELINE NG MGA SUNDALO.
NASA PAGES 29 AT 44 NG INK & POLITICS 2 'DI BA?
KUNG ANU-ANO NA KASI ANG INIISIP NAMIN PARA KUMITA.
ARMED ESCORT, CLOSE-IN SECURITY, BODYGUARD NG VIP ...
GOONS-FOR-HIRE, GUNS-FOR-HIRE... LAHAT 'YAN E PINAPASOK NG SUNDALO.
KASI WALA KAMING IBANG PUHUNAN KUNDI BARIL!
KTSAK!
MAG-BOUNTY HUNTER KA NA LANG. HULIHIN MO SI SADAAM AT AL GHOZI.
MAY KAIBIGAN KA NGANG NPA, HINDI NAMAN WANTED...

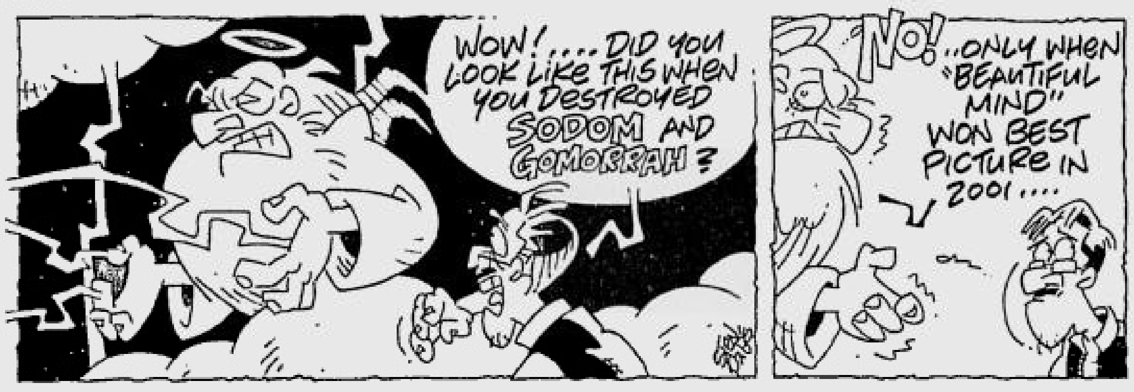
## MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


ARG! LOOK AT MY HAIR!
THIS HUMIDITY IS CAUSING HAVOC!
TELL ME ABOUT IT!
muttscomics.com
8-8

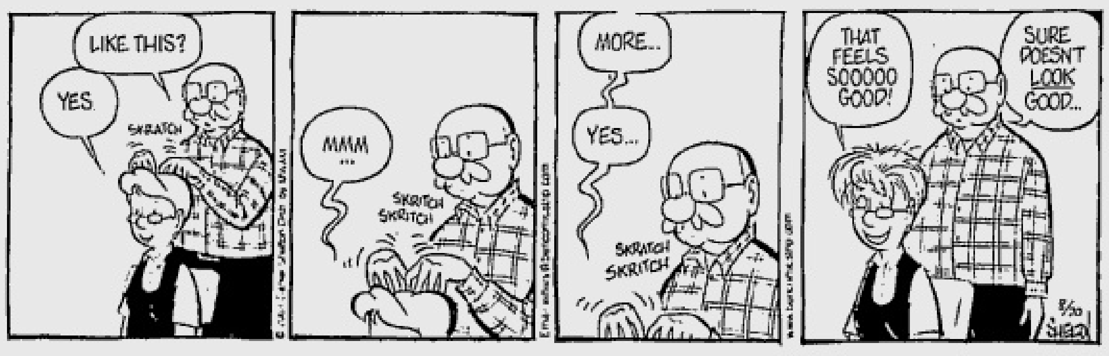
## DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


WOW!.... DID YOU LOOK LIKE THIS WHEN YOU DESTROYED SODOM AND GOMORRAH?
NO! ..ONLY WHEN "BEAUTIFUL MIND" WON BEST PICTURE IN 2001....

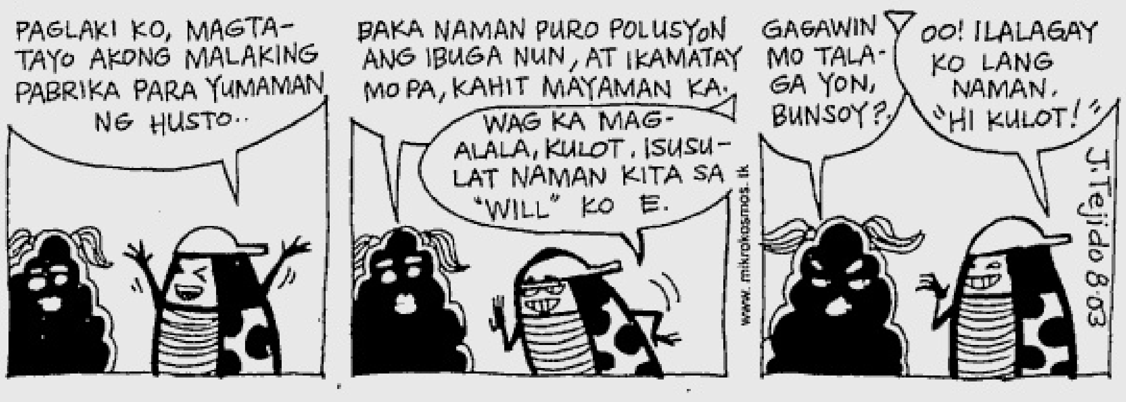
## BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


LIKE THIS?
YES.
SKRATCH
MMM ...
SKRITCH SKRITCH
MORE...
YES...
SKRATCH SKRITCH
THAT FEELS SOOOOO GOOD!
SURE DOESN'T LOOK GOOD...

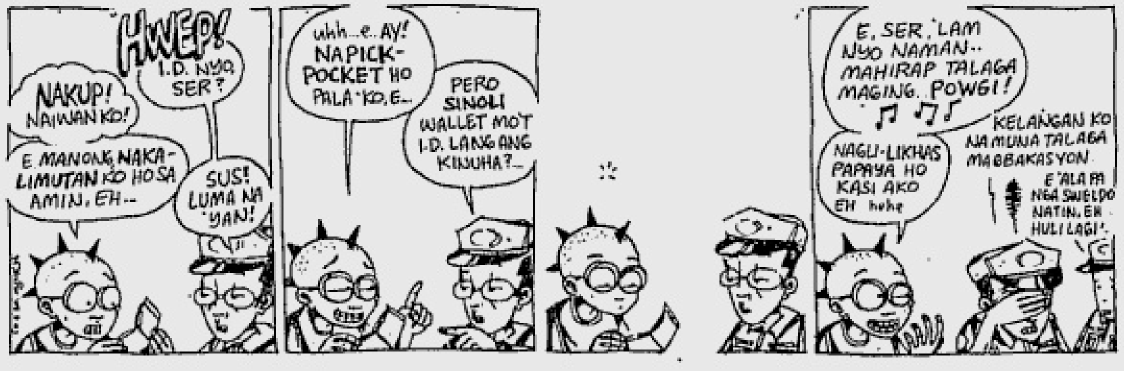
## MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


PAGLAKI KO, MAGTATAYO AKONG MALAKING PABRIKA PARA YUMAMAN NG HUSTO..
BAKA NAMAN PURO POLUSYON ANG IBUGA NUN, AT IKAMATAY MO PA, KAHIT MAYAMAN KA.
WAG KA MAG-ALALA, KULOT. ISUSULAT NAMAN KITA SA "WILL" KO E.
www.mikrokosmos.tk
GAGAWIN MO TALAGA YON, BUNSOY?
OO! ILALAGAY KO LANG NAMAN, "HI KULOT!"
J. Tejido 8.03

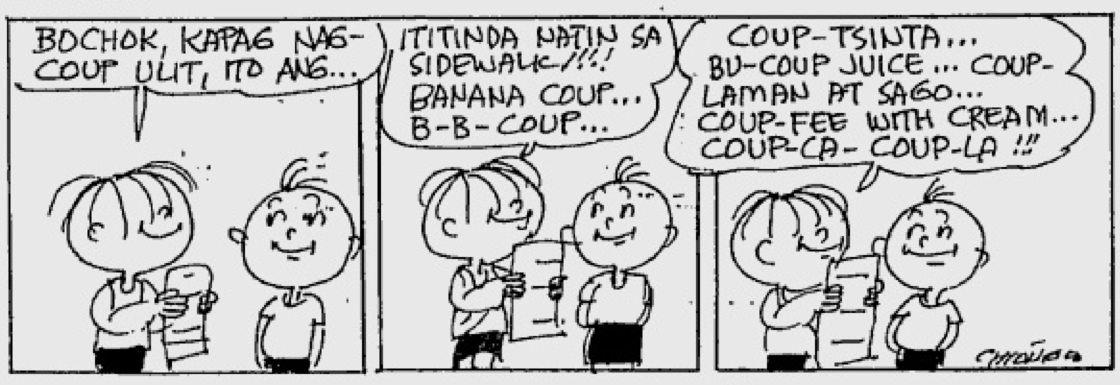
## KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


HWEP!
I.D. NYO SER?
NAKUP! NAIWAN KO!
E MANONG, NAKALIMUTAN KO HO SA AMIN, EH--
SUS! LUMA NA 'YAN!
uhh...e..AY! NAPICK-POCKET HO PALA 'KO, E...
PERO SINOLI WALLET MO'T I.D. LANG ANG KINUHA?...
E, SER, 'LAM NYO NAMAN.. MAHIRAP TALAGA MAGING POWGI!
NAGLI-LIKHAS PAPAYA HO KASI AKO EH hehe
KELANGAN KO NA MUNA TALAGA MAGBAKASYON
E 'ALA PA NGA SWELDO NATIN, EH HULI LAGI!

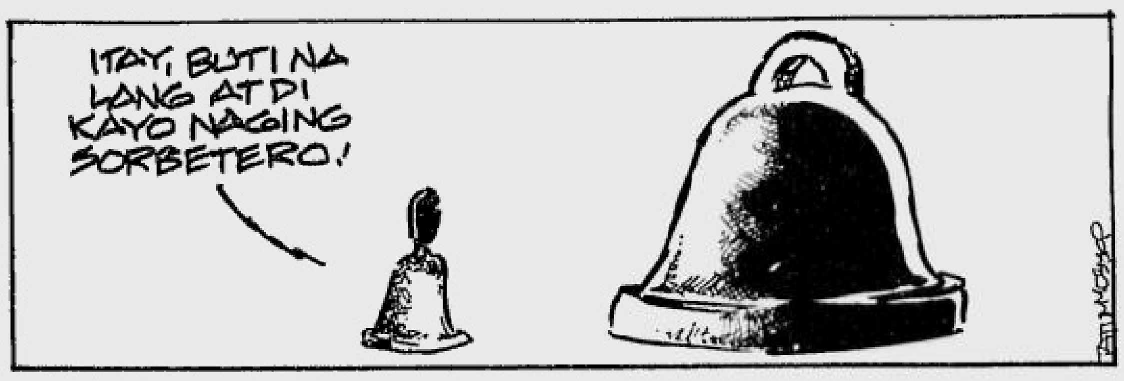
## LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


BOCHOK, KAPAG NAG-COUP ULIT, ITO ANG...
ITITINDA NATIN SA SIDEWALK!!!
BANANA COUP... B-B-COUP...
COUP-TSINTA... BU-COUP JUICE... COUP-LAMAN AT SAGO... COUP-FEE WITH CREAM... COUP-CA-COUP-LA !!"

## TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING

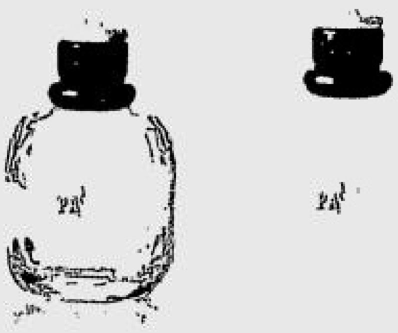

ITAY, BUTI NA LANG AT DI KAYO NAGING SORBETERO!

# *New ladies' fragrance heightens 'passion and emotion'*

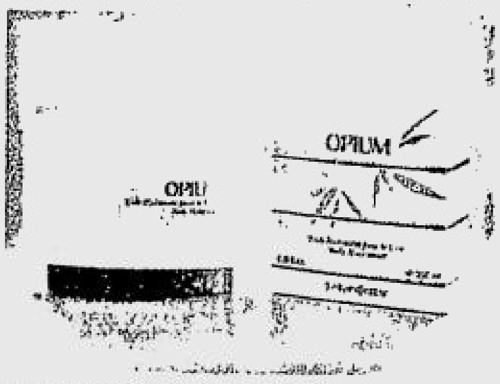
CAROLINA Herrera introduces Carolina eau de toilette, a new scent with a classic fresh fragrance that's feminine and elegant. Designed to suit a young woman's character, the scent imparts spontaneity and sophistication to its wearer.

The young classic scent is a balanced mixture derived from nature. Picked from wood, amber, musk, flower petals, fruits, bitter orange and pepper, the fragrance leaves a feeling of anticipation, passion and emotion.

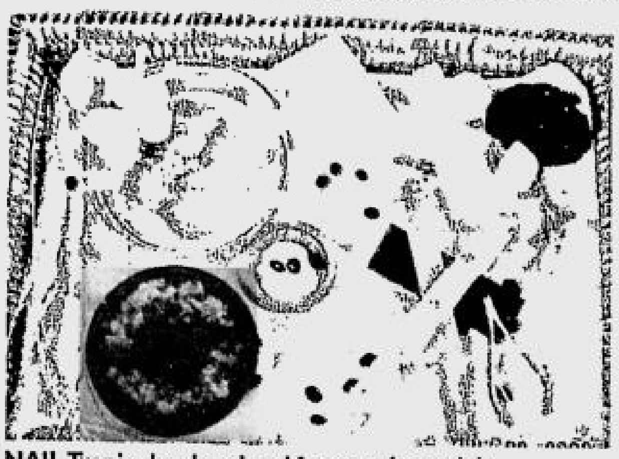
Carolina, which comes in 50 ml and 100 ml bottles, is available at all leading department stores nationwide, and is exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corporation.



**CELEBRATION OF A SEASON**
**Yves Saint Laurent Fragrance presents Springtime Fragrance of Paris. Alba rosebuds with violet and orange blossoms set the tone for a romantic fragrance. Centifolia rose, white lily of the valley and jasmine petals create a heady heart. Sandalwood and a blend of musks accentuate the sweetness of flowers. Exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corp.**



**PROVOCATIVE AND HEADY**
**The new Opium bath line presents five potions inspired by Oriental rituals: purification with Gel Douche Onctueux and Deodorant Parfume; skincare with Voile Hydratant and Huile Satinee pour le Corps; embellishment with Creme Riche pour le Corps. All products contain poppy flower extract, which is known for its skin-softening properties.**



**NAIL Tropics has hand and feet scrub specials every month.**

**HAND and foot scrubs using coffee and tea are totally new experiences.**

# Hot treats for August

From page F1

fense Booster SPF 30 and moisture-rich body cream.

**Nail Tropics.** Located at One Luna, Lifestyle Center, Eastwood City (tel. no. 683-0106), this salon has hand and feet scrub specials every month.

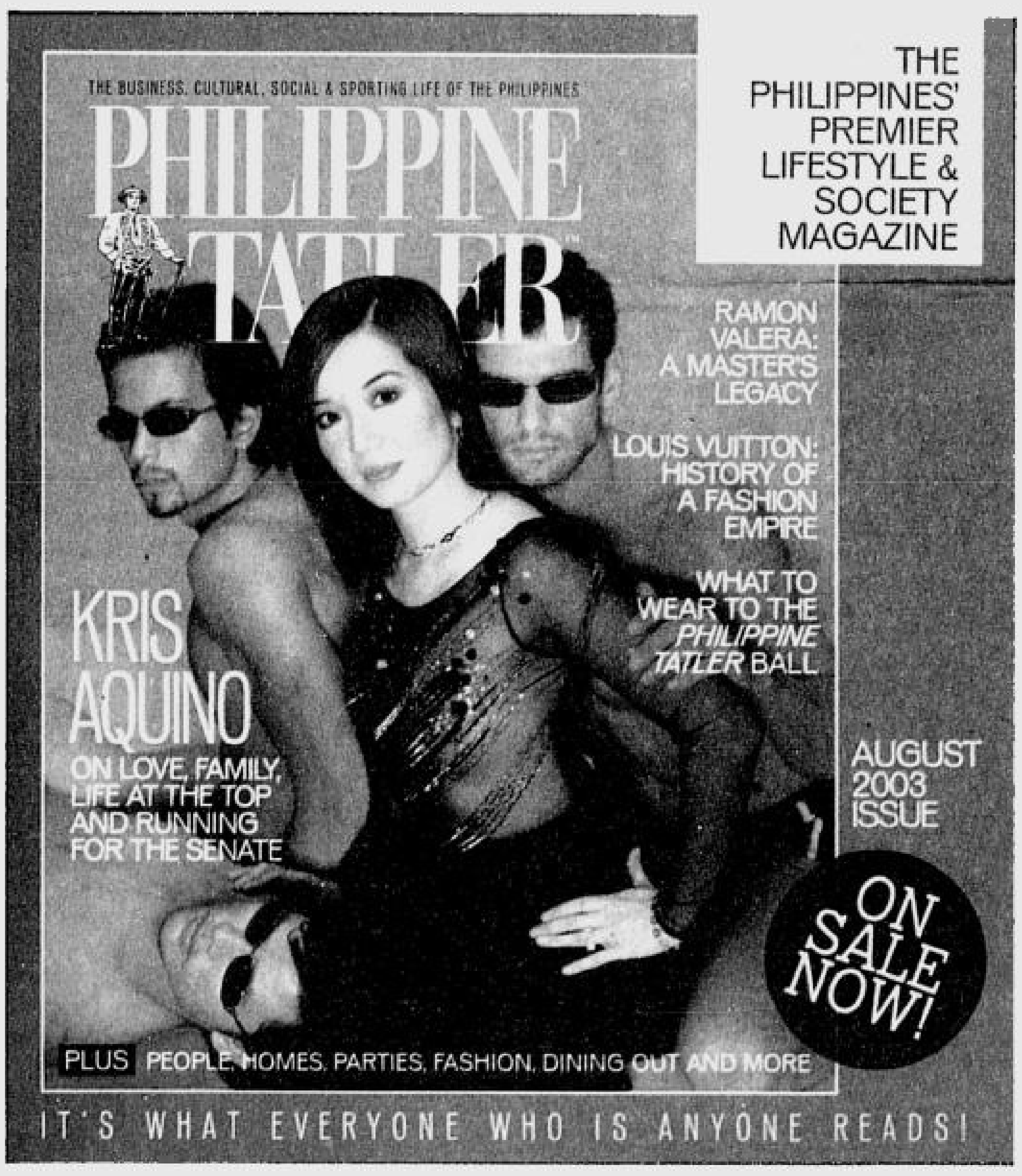
The experience was totally new to me. The attendants wrap your extremities in a special concoction while the yummy aroma wafts around you.

The specials to choose from this August include the Expresso Fresh-O scrub, a blend of ground coffee beans, honey and milk, plus olive and vanilla. It detoxifies, moisturizes and drains excess fluids.

There's also Coffee and Shea, a hand/finger-scrub with head and scalp massage, and the Coffee calf-wrap—a leg or foot-scrub with hand massage.

Or you may try Teasingly Tea, a mix of green and jasmine tea, almonds, honey and ginger to tone mature skin and boost circulation. The mix also contains muscle relaxants and anti-bacterial qualities.

I tried the Coffee Shea and Tea-Calf wrap. Afterwards, my legs smelled like éclairs and my arms like creamy coffee.



THE BUSINESS, CULTURAL, SOCIAL & SPORTING LIFE OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE TATLER
THE PHILIPPINES' PREMIER LIFESTYLE & SOCIETY MAGAZINE
RAMON VALERA: A MASTER'S LEGACY
LOUIS VUITTON: HISTORY OF A FASHION EMPIRE
WHAT TO WEAR TO THE PHILIPPINE TATLER BALL
KRIS AQUINO ON LOVE, FAMILY, LIFE AT THE TOP AND RUNNING FOR THE SENATE
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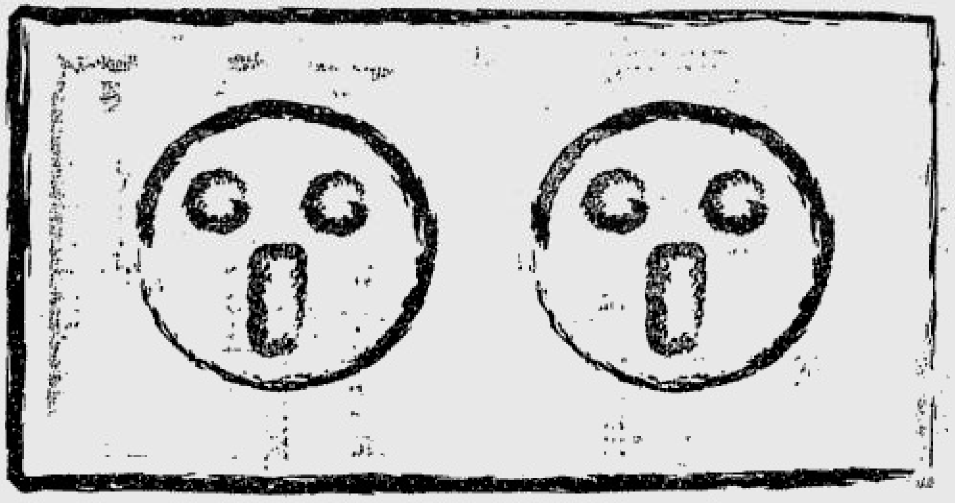
MA ZIÑE PRESEN

Salazar
A RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBIT

AUGUST 8-22, 2003 10 AM 5 PM
STUDIO GALLERY, MUNI IONS CENTER BUILDING,
ABS-CBN, EU ENIC LOPEZ JR. AVENUE, DILIMAN, Q.
OPEN TC TI B 41 2272 LO 4667 FOR IRIES
IBUTE SHA ED VI BENCH, LIFESTYLE NETWORK,
nd PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



Saksakan ng mura, masa-shock ka talaga
sa **Appliance Fair** ng **Greenhills Shopping Center!**
Mula August 8 to September 7, magugulat ka sa dami ng appliances na puwedeng mapamili sa GSC. Sari-saring brands at affordable prices, puwede pang installment using your credit card. Mapa-appliance, RTW, or other shopping items, ang GSC lang ang outlet na pasok sa iyong shopping budget.
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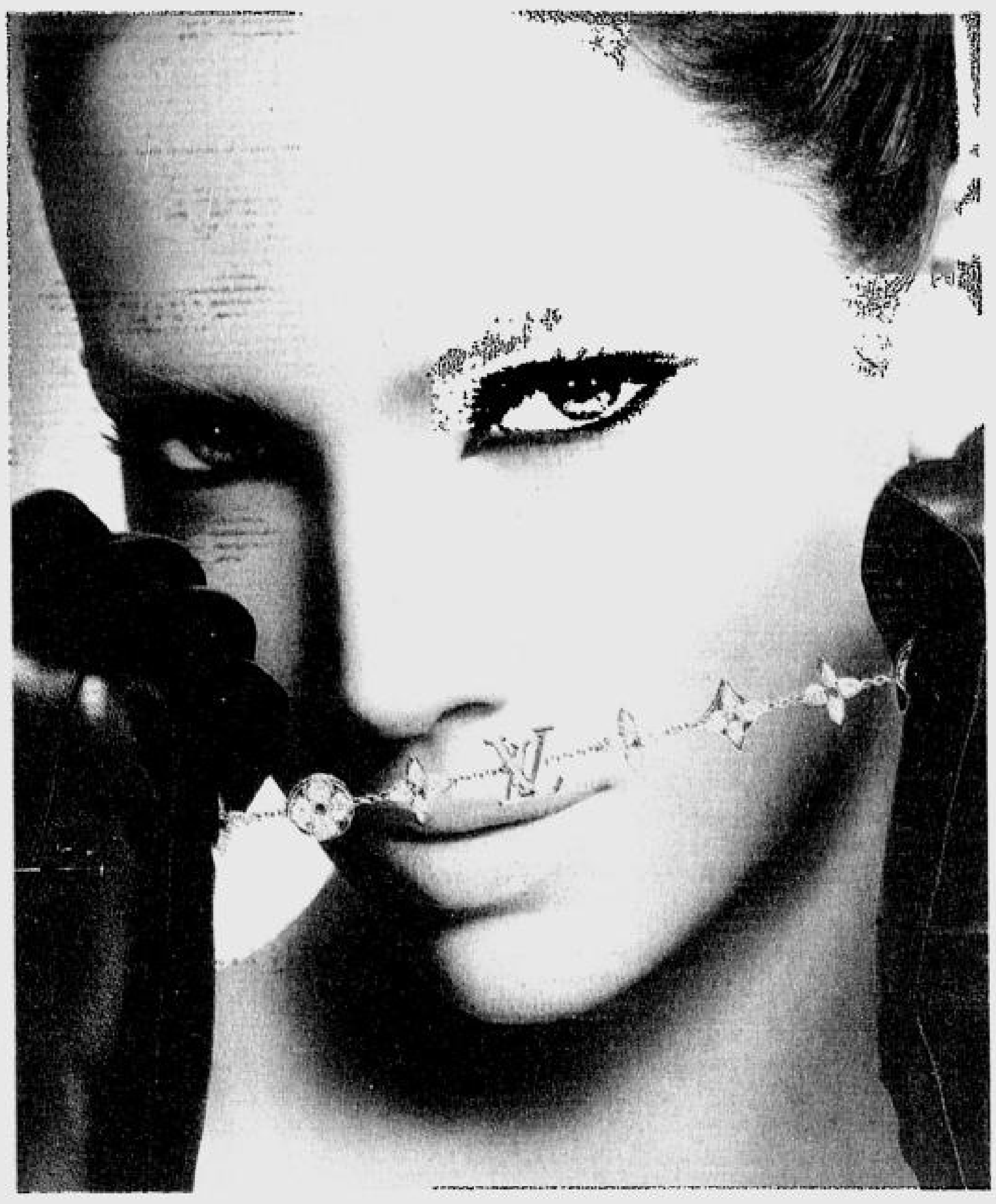
POP star Jennifer Lopez lends her celebrity in the Marc Jacobs-helmed Louis Vuitton Fall-Winter 2003-04 campaign. She is photographed by top English lensmen Mert Alas and Marcus Piggott.



# J.Lo glamorized, glorified

LOUIS Vuitton's 2003 Fall-Winter Collection ad campaign goes Hollywood with Jennifer Lopez.

"Jennifer Lopez is a modern woman who is in tune with the times," says Marc Jacobs, Louis Vuitton's head designer and art director. "She is the very image of a glamorous, seductive, and sexy woman, the perfect model for this collection."

The latest Women's Ready-to-Wear collection glorifies women with clothes that are elegant and sensual, and the campaign's concept is all about an influential, assertive woman who is at the same time chic and glamorous.

"We want to glorify Jennifer Lopez, while creating an elegant graphic image," remarks Jacobs.

For this task, Jacobs tapped top English photographers Mert Alas and Marcus Piggott.

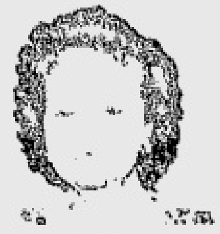
The ads' images are simple and highly graphic.

"During the photo shoots, Jennifer was full of energy and sensuality," Jacobs says. "She really got into the role and became the Louis Vuitton woman."

In the Philippines, Louis Vuitton is located at the ground floor level of 6750 Ayala Avenue, Makati City. For more information visit the website at www.vuitton.com or call the Customer Information Service Hotline at 8130637.

# He lies to save his ego

**LIVE AND LET LIVE**



Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I've been courting Girlie for five years and my family and friends have been kidding me a lot for (failing to get her to say) "yes." So, (as a salve to) my ego, I told them that she was already my girlfriend. That went well, until one day my parents and some sisters were in a restaurant and saw Girlie. They happily invited her to their table, and she accepted, and the worst that could happen happened: they all found out I lied. Now I don't know if she will forgive me.

BHOY

To be concerned about being forgiven means you—the offender—are more concerned about salvaging your reputation than Girlie's and your family's. So, give priority to apologizing to them, instead of receiving their forgiveness.

I'm sure they will forgive you. I don't know when that will be, but there are reasons why they should. Girlie will eventually realize that when you lied about your relationship, you risked a much bigger stain on your honor—all because you love and want her a lot. That's a compliment to her, no matter how awkwardly put. Your family and friends, meanwhile, would eventually realize that the pressure they put on you was partly responsible for your desperate behavior.

## BF can't make up his mind

I'm a Muslim and my boyfriend is an Islamic scholar, and I'd like to marry him. The problem is, before we met, a Buddhist girl who asked him to teach her about Islam has fallen in love with him and won't leave him alone. Worse, he can't seem to let her go either.

So, although I love him a lot, I broke up with him. But he swore he only liked her and he loved me, so I took him back. But the other girl is hanging on and, although her Buddhist father does not like him for her, she has begun talking about converting and about polygamy being allowed in Islam. I'm a Muslim, but I don't like that arrangement, so I've asked for a break-up again, but he's begging me to continue our relationship. What will I do?

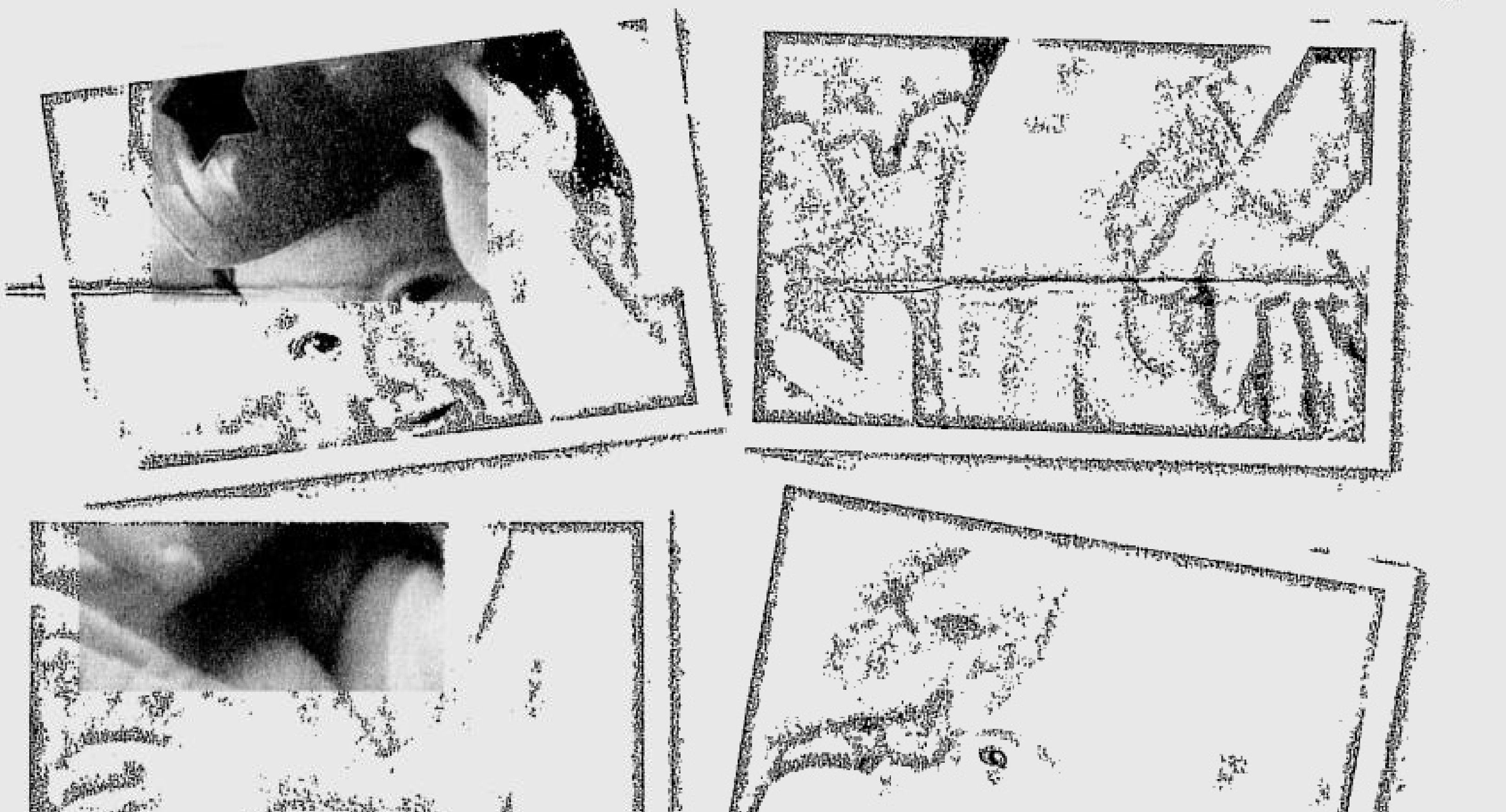
FATIMA

It's possible he is just tempted by the forbidden—having a relationship with a girl that your religion doesn't approve of. You can ask your boyfriend's mentors to intercede. They will probably steer him towards you. However, that will only change his behavior but not necessarily his heart. It will not solve your problem, because what you are really after is his heart.

He really has to choose between you and her. But if he can't do that while he has both of you, then take yourself out of the picture. Agree to a period of, say, three months, during which communication with you will be cut off completely so he will be free to see the other girl. Tell him that he could come back to you only if he swears that he has cut his ties with her and he does not intend to resume them. If he does not return after that time, you can consider your relationship as formally ended.

That might sound extreme, but he has had enough time. Now it's a choice between prolonging your agony and finding out once and for all to whom his heart belongs.

*E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City*



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